The Middlebury Campus

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Vermont cracks down on underage drinking

By Emily Manning
News Editor

The recent broadening of a Vermont state law has left Middlebury College and its students facing increased liability for infractions relating to underage drinking. Under the legislation passed this June, anyone who "knowingly enables the consumption" of alcohol by minors is subject to stiff fines and possible imprisonment and felony charges.

This broad language has serious implications for Middlebury College, Campus Security, Social Houses, organizations and even individuals that serve alcohol. While the college has not made any public announcements concerning the new legislation or announced any modifications to the school's alcohol policy, the administration has been meeting with Middlebury Police Chief Tom Hanley, Vermont State Alcohol Inspector John D'Esposito and the college attorney to discuss the matter. "After we meet…we will know more about how it [the policy] is going to be enforced," said Dean of Students Ann Craig Hanson.

Few college officials involved in the meetings appear to have solutions to a problem which could create a legal and financial nightmare for all members of the college community. As it stands now, Middlebury's alcohol policy employs a citation system issued by Campus Security officers. Citations are issued for a variety of alcohol-related offenses, such as engaging in underage drinking, serving a minor or serving unregistered beverages.

Under the rewritten law, Middlebury's current citations would provide written documentation of a transgression of the law and could be used as evidence if the college were to be prosecuted for an offense. "It [the law] will require an evaluation of the college's citation system," commented Middlebury Police Chief Tom Hanley. Hanley said that he also hopes security will "increase follow-up" in order to "safeguard its position in the matter."

Hanley also indicated that a college citation could lead to criminal charges for underage drinking. "Technically, if a minor received a citation from a [college] security officer, he could also be cited by the Middlebury Police Department if the officer testified in court."

Many question the extent to which Middlebury Police and other authorities will enforce the new law.

(see Vermont, page 4)

Pete Huoppi

R.C. Anderson celebrated his 80th birthday by completing the final five mile leg of the college's Bicentennial Run.

Fund-raising effort exceeds $100 million

By Jennifer DeLeonardo
In Depth Editor

The Bicentennial Celebration Run which finished on the Middlebury town green this past Saturday symbolized 200 years of tradition and perhaps something more; about 95 million more — dollars, that is.

That's how much money the college still needs to raise if it plans on meeting its $200 million goal by June 30, 2000 — exactly five years after the Bicentennial Campaign was officially launched.

Through a mix of nostalgic events like Bicentennial Celebration Run and a relentless fund-raising campaign, the Bicentennial Campaign will attempt to honor 200 years of history and tradition by committing $200 million dollars to the college's future.

The campaign, aimed at a final goal twice as large as the amount the college has previously tried to raise, is no easy endeavor. Vice President of External Affairs Will Melton heads an office of approximately fifty staff members working largely on the campaign, and President John McCardell has done his fair share of traveling around the world trying to convince alumni to donate to their alma mater. Raising $200 million is not easy; potential donors need to be convinced that Middlebury College still remains the sort of institution they would wish supporting.

"For many alumni, they've not been back since they graduated, so we have to help them know what it's like today, for students now… We're asking people to make major financial life decisions," Melton said.

Although nostalgic events such as the Bicentennial Celebration Run and last fall's kick-off dinner do, inevitably, entice some of even the most frugal alumni to reach into their pockets in support of their alma mater, the bulk of the donations has come from large donors.

A large donor is classified as one who can contribute $100,000 or more. Individuals and corporations who have the potential to become major donors are identified by External Affairs staff by looking through past giving records, while others are suggested by other alumni or found through other means. They are then approached by a staff member and a member of the Lead-

(see Fund-raising, page 2)

Starr Library renovation slated to begin in 2000

By Megan Mabee
Staff Writer

The Library Planning Committee is in the final stages of discussing the draft report on the renovation and expansion of Starr Library. These recommendations establish guidelines for the 20-year project that strives to give the Library the flexibility to adapt to the ever-changing needs of students and faculty, as well as to inevitable advances in technology.

"This report represents the working product of the Committees' deliberations over the last year and a half," explained Eric Davis, Chair of the Library Planning Committee. "The project is very much a part of other building planning and work that has been going on campus over the last year as part of the so-called 'Phase One' of the Facilities Plan."

The committee outlined its programmatic recommendations for the remodeling of the Library, placing particular emphasis on the importance of the building having the maximum flexibility possible. Numerous projected changes in technology, and their subsequent influence on education, makes this flexibility a crucial component of the new library. There will be ample room for growth in paper and electronic collections in the renovated library, as well as spaces which can be adapted to meet the changes in utilization of scholarly materials over next two decades.

The library will also become the primary curriculum support center on campus, as Information Technology Services, Media Services and the Writing Center will become part of the expanded library. This proposed change would centralize the curricular services that students, faculty and staff would use to work on an academic project.

The large number of seating arrangements that encourage students to collaborate on projects, along with additional group study rooms, reflect an increase in the number of group projects that are assigned. Individual study spaces will also be expanded, as the Committee hopes to provide carrels for 30 percent of the Senior class, or all Seniors writing a library-based thesis or senior project.

By expanding the Library's

(see Starr, page 2)

Dancing until the break of dawn

Mark Hamilton

In a raucous display, *Middlebury first-years danced into the early hours at the "Screw your roommate" dance on Friday night in McCollough.*

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Middlebury Sailing moves up through the pack in latest regatta

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COLLEGE shorts

By David Keeling
Associate Editor

One Killed, Five Injured in Dormitory Fire

Sophomore Michael H. Minger of Murray State University was killed, and five other students were hospitalized as the result of a fire on the fourth floor of their dormitory last month. The fire was the second one to take place that week on that floor, and Kentucky state police say it was caused by arson. Minger's death is being treated as a homicide, and both fires are under investigation.

sga notes

Election Day: Thursday, October 1, 1998 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the McCullough Building.

General Assembly Meeting: Sunday, October 4, 1998 at 7 p.m. in Warner Hemicycle. The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

I. Attendance
II. Announcements
III. Committee Report
IV. New Business
~Presentation of Enchanced Residential Plan
~Presentation of Working Commons Document

There is an e-mail list which was established for anyone to get the SGA agenda and minutes. To receive the list send an e-mail to majordomo@middlebury.edu, leaving the subject blank. In the body text write "subscribe SGA minutes."

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Fund-raising effort exceeds $100 million

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ership Gifts Committee, an entity made up of volunteers who have been major donors in the past. Before the potential donor is approached, an analysis is made as to how much they could possibly give, so that the college can make a specific request. If the prospect is determined to be able to donate over $500,000, President McCardell handles the transaction.

The Office of External Affairs has honed the process of raising money for this campaign to a veritable science. It has analyzed just how many donors and what types of donors are needed in order to reach the goal.

Eighty percent of the 200 million is expected to come from a relatively small number of large donors. So far, $84.7 million has been collected from 166 donors.

The office has figured out that in order to actually obtain these donations, they need to identify three potential donors for every one actual donor; in other words, it is estimated that one out of every three potential large donors will actually close the deal. So far, there are 671 out of 918 needed prospects. The remaining 40 million is expected to come from small donations.

The donations contributed to the Bicentennial Campaign are not limited to straightforward monetary donations. Alumni often take the opportunity to specify how they would like their donation to be allocated. Often, External Affairs will talk with the potential donor to find out their areas of interest. For example, if a donor is interested the arts, and the college would like to renovate Johnson, a request for $2 million for the specific renovations the college has in mind would be made.

One of the most important aspects of the fundraising project currently being pursued is obtaining funds for "endowed professorships" and financial aid grants. Endowed professorships are competitive faculty positions completely funded by a specific donation to the college. Endowed professorships often attract prestigious allow for the continued promotion of a strong faculty, while financial aid grants will allow the college to continue their search for the strongest students.

This quest fulfills two goals of the Bicentennial Campaign: "To attract and retain the strongest teacher-scholars;" and "To make it possible for the college to enroll very bright students with limited financial resources and to ensure diversity of students…"

The dedication to seeking out students with the strongest academic credentials seems to be a priority of the Bicentennial Campaign. The Office of External Affairs has created what they call the "Bicentennial Scholarship Challenge". A group of ten corporations and individuals have contributed a total of $10 million to it. This group plans to put out a personal challenge to the rest of the Middlebury extended family to match this $10 million.

"If a student is in the top two percent of students in the country, we have to make sure that we give them a competitive financial aid package. If another school gives them a better one, it is likely that they will go there", explains Melton.

Even if the $200 million goal is met by June 30, 2000, the college may not necessarily have that amount to contribute to the endowment. Donations made to the campaign also include gifts in less readily available such as trusts.

"Some people are thinking about establishing trusts that would benefit the college when they die," said Melton. "The process takes months or years to complete in some cases."

Starr Library renovation slated to begin in 2000

(continued from page 1)

function, the committee hopes to make it the principal hub of intellectual activity on campus. "We believe it's in a way fortuitous that the discussion of the so-called 'campus center concept,' in the area of McCullough and Starr Library, that has been taking place over the last year… places the library in a primary place in what we hope will be the central location on campus," explained Davis.

In renovating the library, the committee recognizes the importance of maintaining a pleasant atmosphere, as many of the ultra-modern libraries of the twenty-first century are characterized as sterile. Davis stated that the committee is looking for an architect that could "design us a building that will… be a very functional and inviting library inside, and on the outside it will be something that we can be proud of and that will make a statement about both the history and aspirations of Middlebury College."

Construction, that will enlarge the existing library by more than 75 percent of its current size, will begin in the spring of 2000 and is estimated to be completed by the fall of 2001.

"The renovation and expansion of Starr Library does represent one of the most important building projects for Middlebury College," affirmed Davis. "This project should be consulted what we call a landmark building which is representative of the intellectual centrality of the library, the enterprise of Middlebury College."

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Alex Fuller

International journalists Tony Horwitz and Geraldine Brooks share their experiences with Middlebury students.

Journalists recount their experiences in the field

By Megan Sowards
Editor in Chief

After spending nearly six years covering wars and political unrest for the Wall Street Journal in such dangerous locales as Bosnia, Iraq and Somalia, the husband and wife team of Tony Horwitz and Geraldine Brooks is finally settling down in the decidedly sedate Virginia countryside.

Although Brooks continues to pursue stories in the Middle East, the couple has traded the days of hopping last minute aid flights to remote corners of the globe for a more stable lifestyle which centers around non-fiction writing and their two-year old son, Nattie.

But, the forty-something writers who met in journalism school, are not the typical parents of a toddler. For most of their adult lives, Brooks and Horwitz lived out of a suitcase between one foreign assignment to the next.

"We would come home to London to change our socks," says Brooks of their stint as foreign correspondents.

During their tenure at the Wall Street Journal, Brooks and Horwitz covered the Iran-Iraq War, the Palestinian uprising, the Gulf War and the Arab-Israli peace process.

"I didn't have any visions of myself as a foreign correspondent," says Brooks, who was born and raised in Australia. "I thought maybe I'd spend two years in London, or some cushy berth like that."

Still, after a brief career as a writer in the Journal's Cleveland bureau, Brooks returned to Australia to open the paper's Australasia bureau. Horwitz followed, working at the Sydney Morning Herald and writing a book about his journey hitchhiking across the continent.

Shortly thereafter, the couple accepted a much more daunting assignment. Beginning in 1987, they began to cover the Middle East.

"I felt the most threatened in the aftermath of the Gulf War," recalls Brooks, for whom wearing a bullet-proof vest was not uncommon. "I was trapped with the Kurds who were trying to escape to the border. Actually, a friend of mine was killed in that situation," adds Brooks with her typical soft-spoken eloquence.

Both Brooks and Horwitz bore witness to significant dangers as they sought stories for the Journal. Brooks recalls her three-day imprisonment in Nigeria where she was jailed on suspicion of espionage. Horwitz adds, almost in passing, that they were "ordered out of Iraq the day before the bombing began." All in a day's work for the pair that at times hired bodyguards to protect themselves.

Both Horwitz and Brooks' journalistic efforts in the Middle East have been recognized with prestigious awards. Often co-writing stories, the duo won an Overseas Press Club award for best foreign news reporting, for their coverage of the Gulf War in 1992. Ironically, Horwitz won a Pulitzer Prize in 1995, not for his war coverage, but for an exposé he wrote on low wage jobs in the American South.

Brooks writes off the honors with typical modesty. "In some ways, it is easier than other kinds of reporting. In a chaotic situation like war or an uprising the story is very obvious. People are feeling things so intensely you don't have to look very hard," she says.

Though the couple's remarkable love story has merged their careers and bridged far-flung locales, their backgrounds could not be more different.

(see Journalists, page 5)

Protest draws attention to sweatshops

By Lindsay Frost
Staff writer

Last Thursday several Middlebury students joined a nationwide college campus boycott of Guess? Inc. by passing out leaflets on Proctor terrace at lunch time. Jenna Karlin '01.5, who organized the protest, stated that the leaflets outlined, "the illegal and immoral conduct of Guess? regarding the production of its designer clothing in sweatshops in Los Angeles and Mexico." The leaflets, which feature the band Rage Against the Machine urging students to "Rage Against Sweatshops," were posted all over campus a few weeks ago.

This entire movement is spearheaded by Karlin, who became involved in the Guess? boycott this summer in Washington, D.C., where she had an internship with the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organization (AFL-CIO). There she learned of the Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees, or UNITE, the national textile workers union, and their campaign against the Guess? sweatshops, and decided to become involved, even attending a protest in a suburban D.C. shopping mall. When asked why this particular cause became so important to her, Karlin answered, "When I see people working more than 40 hours in a week, choosing between paying the electric bill and the grocery bill, I know something's wrong with our society."

To fight this sort of abuse, UNITE is calling for a boycott of Guess? clothing because in 1996 the U.S. government discovered Guess? and their contractors were operating sweatshops in Los Angeles to produce their designer clothing. Instead of improving the conditions for the workers, however, Guess? moved production to Tehucn, Mexico to avoid having to close down the sweatshops and are continuing to violate the rights of their workers.

Karlin feels very strongly about the abuse of workers in sweatshops and spoke at length about the Guess? situation and the existence of similar cases in the U.S. today. "Almost everything we wear is made by sweatshops," she said, "[but] we have limited resources, so the way to fight that is to target individual companies and dissolve one sweatshop at a time." For Karlin, the final goal is the elimination of all sweatshops and worker abuse, but for now, she is focusing on the Guess? boycott in hopes that fighting one battle at a time will eventually win the war. "Putting pressure on Guess? is putting pressure on other companies," she said.

'Students need to know that we can make a difference because we have collective buying power. We will not be fooled, we will not wear clothing made in despicable conditions.'
—Jenna Karlin '01.5

The Guess? boycott has spread nationwide, and demonstrations similar to the one Thursday at Middlebury have been occurring at UVM and hundreds of other schools across the country. Karlin brought the movement to Middlebury because she really feels that students can truly make a difference. As she told the students who were helping her on Thursday, "Students need to know that we can make a difference because we have collective buying power. We will not be fooled, we will not wear clothing made in despicable conditions. We can make a fashion statement —we will not wear Guess?"

In an effort to show exactly what students and schools can do in this fight against sweatshops, Karlin also mentioned measures taken at Brown and Duke where contracts were signed last spring stating that no college-related clothing made in sweatshops would be sold in the college stores. Karlin indicated that she would like to see the same steps taken at the Middlebury college store.

Overall, Karlin is pleased with the positive response she got from students on Thursday. "My main purpose was education," she said. "I felt I got people thinking." She plans to continue educating Middlebury students about sweatshops and the Guess? boycott and urges anyone who has any interest in these issues to contact her.

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Vermont cracks down on underage drinking with modified law

(continued from page 1)

Although the college is within the jurisdiction of the town police, Hanley admitted that the police department "hasn't made it a practice to open precinct on campus" and has "no intentions to make visiting the college a routine practice."

Still, the fear of being held liable in the event of the death of a minor related to underage drinking poses risks for party organizers and the college. Social House presidents and other student leaders feel these risks are too great. Presently, these leaders could be held responsible criminally and financially for infractions of the law.

One possible means of thwarting this statute would be to require that Middcatering register and serve the alcohol at social house parties. It is presently accounted for by social house members.

In light of the consequences, few social houses and student groups are willing to risk holding parties. Jed Harris, president of ADP, said that the law has caused "social tension" on campus and fear among members of houses has made them "hesitant to have even closed [members' only] parties."

The college could choose to discontinue its current citation system in an attempt to avoid overt documentation of its awareness of underage drinking. It is unclear whether or not the college could still be held liable as owners of the property.

The law comes at a time of heightened awareness of increased binge drinking among college students nationwide. Middlebury plans to offer a week-long alcohol symposium this week and has made efforts to reduce binge drinking on campus over the last few years.

It is questionable whether the law may cause a increased rate of binge drinking in dorm rooms and other locales difficult to patrol with campus security. Neither Director of Campus Security Teddi Jennings, D'Esposito, nor Hanley could speculate on the effect the law might have on binge drinking rates.

The college was not aware of the changes in the law until Sept. 18 when D'Esposito visited campus, according to Dean of Students Ann Craig Hanson. Later that evening, D'Esposito charged seven Middlebury students with underage drinking, requiring them to appear in court. Any minor found guilty of alcohol consumption could face a fine up to $500 or imprisonment for up to 30 days, according to D'Esposito. In some instances, minors can avoid fines or imprisonment by accepting community service or other obligations.

"...the more extensively a school regulates student conduct [concerning underage drinking], the more vulnerable it may be to claimes of negligence."
—Richard Schneider, president of Norwich University

While the consequences of alcohol consumption by minors has not changed under the broadened law, officials are trying to increase enforcement, according to D'Esposito.

Prior to June, only those who sold or furnished alcohol to a minor could be subject to prosecution. Now, anyone who "knowingly enables the consumption" of alcohol by a person under the age of 21 can be held liable. Enabling, according to D'Esposito, is defined as "setting up circumstances that would bring about consumption by a minor."

In the past, D'Esposito said police have had difficulty "determining who furnished alcohol" at parties with underage drinking. He added that "very few furnishers are willing to admit it, especially in the case of social houses."

Under the modified law, a person who enables the consumption of alcohol by a minor is subject to a fine of no less than $500 and no more than $2,000 or imprisonment for no more than two years, or both. Moreover, if the minor causes death to himself, herself or another person while driving under the influence of alcohol, the person or party that enabled the consumption is subject to imprisonment for no more than five years, a fine of no more than $10,000 or both.

The modification of the law was a response to several deadly car accidents involving underage drinkers that have caused underage alcohol-related fatalities in the state to soar.

Last September's alcohol-related car crash that left two teenage boys dead and two critically injured was the main catalyst for the re-evaluation of underage drinking, according to D'Esposito. The driver of the vehicle, 16 year-old Daniel Kitchens, managed to survive the accident while his 17 year-old brother and best friend died in the crash. The boys had all been on their way home from a beer bash that state troopers had just broken up. Suddenly, serious questions concerning the underage drinking and enforcement arose.

Vermont has had the highest rate of alcohol-related motor vehicle fatalities for 15 to 20 year-olds in the nation for 1996 and 1997, according to Adrienne Cohen, prevention specialist with the state's Middlebury-based alcohol and drug abuse program. While the national average of alcohol-related motor vehicle fatalities for 15 to 20 year olds was 35 percent, Vermont's average was 61 percent.

In a 1997 self-reporting survey on binge drinking, 31 percent of students in grades 8 to 12 had binged on alcohol in the past 30 days, according to Cohen.

D'Esposito says the changes in the law and crackdown on underage drinking have proved effective thus far. Officers have not only broken apart more high school parties, but D'Esposito also said there has been a noticeable decrease in the number of parties held.

D'Esposito said it is too early to tell how the law will affect Vermont, colleges and universities, many of which are experiencing the same paranoia as Middlebury. Richard Schneider, president of Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont has been an adamant opponent of the bill on the basis that it increases a school's liability. When the bill was under consideration in the state legislature, Schneider proposed that a "statutory protection from vicarious liability" be afforded to Vermont's institutions.

"Especially for a university like Norwich, the more extensively a school regulates student conduct, the more vulnerable it may be to claims of negligence," he stated in his testimony. Schneider's amendment was not included in the final draft of the bill.

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Journalists recount their experiences

(continued from page 3)

Brooks knew she wanted to be a journalist from age eight when she got a taste of the field by watching her father copy edit at the Sydney Morning Herald. After the American equivalent of high school, she pursued the very regimented track of Australian journalism school and an apprenticeship at the sporting desk of the Sydney Morning Herald. Later, she attended Columbia School of Journalism, where she met Horowitz.

Horowitz admittedly had no clue he was interested in journalism when he graduated from Brown University. He didn't make up his mind until age 25 when he left his job as a union organizer in Mississippi to attend Columbia to learn how to "write."

"There is no one path," says Horwitz, of his somewhat circuitous career route. "That is the nice thing about journalism."

Both Horwitz and Brooks emphasize the importance of speaking a foreign language and specializing in an area such as science, business or medicine in landing a plum job in journalism. They downplay the benefits of straight journalism instruction.

"The more writing you can do in college the better," says Horwitz. "It almost doesn't matter what you study. I think the time I spent in history classes, political science classes and even literature classes was more valuable."

While both affirm that their experience in journalism school was beneficial, they have mainly reaped the benefits five or ten years later, now that some of their classmates are in senior editorial positions.

"I certainly don't think that journalism school can hurt," says Horwitz. "But, I think if your choice is a good job at a small paper or a year in journalism school, you'd probably learn more at the newspaper."

Brooks and Horwitz have cultivated a keen understanding of the role of journalism during their tenure at the Wall Street Journal despite the current frenzy which seems to have overtaken the field.

"The definition of media has changed so radically," says Horwitz. "I don't honestly think that the core print media has changed its behavior radically...unfortunately the American public doesn't distinguish between the Drudge Report, Geraldo and the New York Times. In the popular mind, these all get mushed together into media..."

The pair also cites the influence of the media on foreign policy. Brooks notes that CNN saw its "apotheosis during the Gulf War, when it went from being the upstart that the networks laughed at to running the show."

Horwitz adds, "there was a period when all the world leaders were watching CNN." American intervention in Somalia is one specific example the couple points to as a case in which publicity has altered the U.S.'s course of action.

While they, at times, yearn for their old lifestyle of "parachute-style" journalism, new interests and more sustained writing endeavors keep them occupied.

Horwitz has published a successful book, "Confederates in the Attic," about Civil War battle reenactment and will join the staff of The New Yorker this fall.

Brooks has visions of writing another book and continues to work on magazine pieces. Her latest work details the story of a Palestinian youth.

Campus Security Log

The Department of Public Safety responded to the following incident reports.

09/20/98 Received a report of a stolen wallet from a room in Longwell.
09/23/98 Received a report of vandalism at Dana Auditorium.
09/24/98 Responded to a report of a student driving to endanger on South Main Street.
09/25/98 Responded to an illegal party in Battell.
09/25/98 Received a report of vandalism in D lot.
09/25/98 Responded to an illegal party in Allen.
09/26/98 Responded to a report of an intoxicated student on Old Chapel Road.
09/26/98 Responded to a report of an intoxicated student on the lawn at Mccullough.
09/26/98 Responded to a report of an intoxicated student behind Forest.
09/26/98 Responded to a report of an intoxicated student in Stewart
09/26/98 Responded to a report of vandalism in Upper Proctor.
09/26/98 Responded to a report of an intoxicated student outside of Carr Hall.
09/26/98 Responded to an illegal party in Hadley.
09/27/98 Responded to an intoxicated student in Stewart.

If you have any information on the above incidents, please contact the Department of Public Safety at x-5911 or x-5133.

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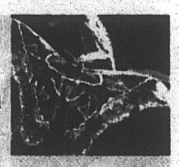

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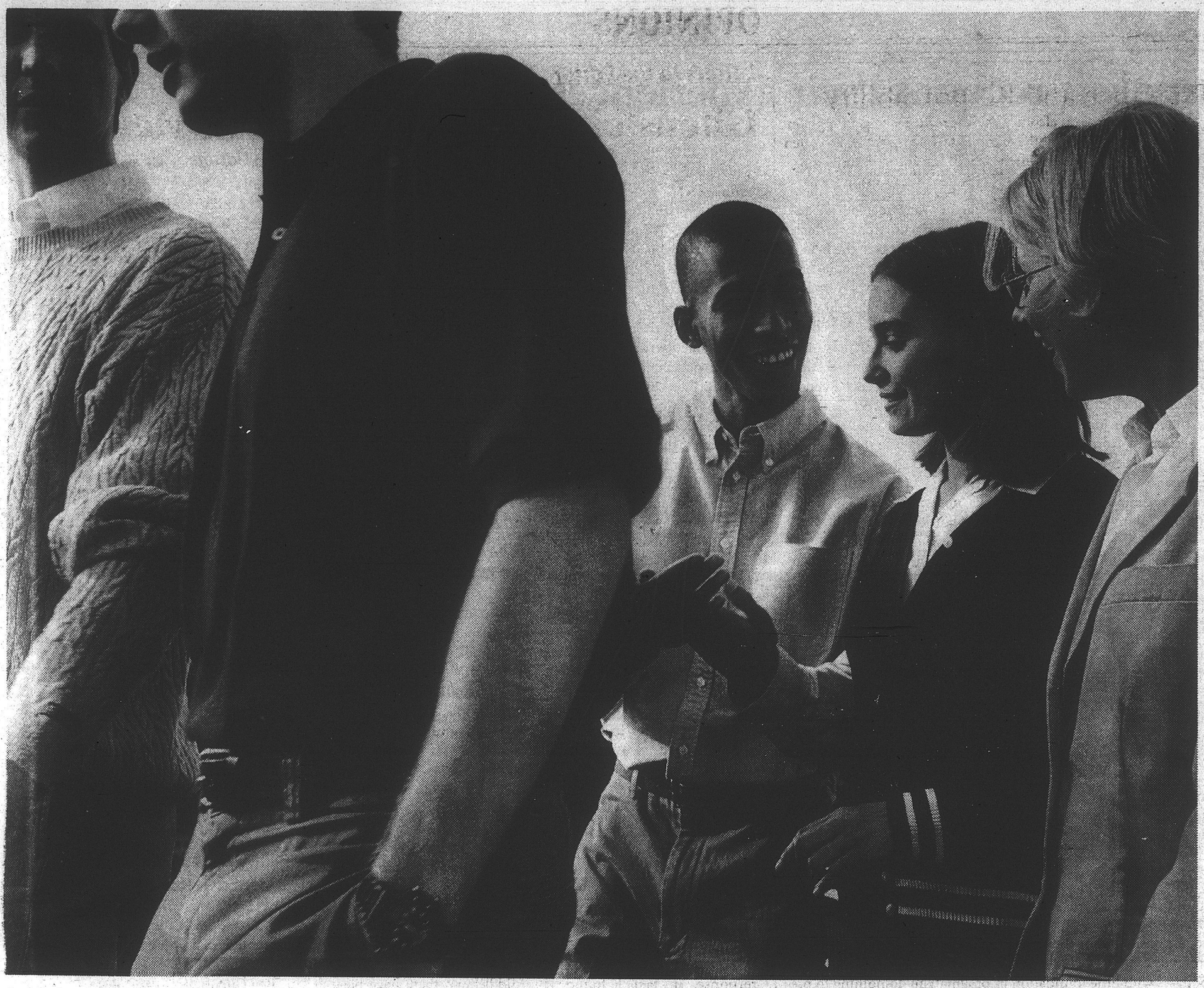

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Tolerance and Responsibility

A recently expanded Vermont alcohol law, which means to get tough on underage high school drinking and the heinous accidents that all too often result, mounts a real and serious liability threat to the entire Middlebury College community. Under the new statute, anyone from an ordinary partygoer to a social house president to the college and its administrators could be held criminally and financially responsible for "enabling" underage drinking.

This foolhardy, shortsighted and unrealistic zero-tolerance policy could potentially destroy the relatively safe drinking environment which Middlebury currently provides. Ironically, this far-reaching law could also hinder the college's attempts to control alcohol consumption on campus by forcing students to drink behind closed doors. The Vermont State Legislature, has created a serious dilemma for the state's 22 colleges and provoked grim safety concerns for the entire community.

Here at Middlebury, word of the crackdown has sent underage drinkers out of the sun and into the shadows. Social Houses remain virtually empty on weekend nights while first-year dorms spill over with unsupervised drinkers. Others travel off campus to private parties. Sadly, we'd be kidding ourselves to think all of those who attended returned with sober drivers. This illustrates the contradiction inherent in the law with respect to college students; it paradoxically increases binge drinking and drunk driving.

Trends like these pose all kinds of threats to our community's safety. Let's face it–for a number of years American colleges have perpetuated a culture which includes underage drinking. Broadening an existing law to penalize further this behavior will not solve the problem of irresponsible drinking all-together, if at all. While giving underage drinkers carte blanche to indulge themselves should not be our aim, past experiences have demonstrated that an alcohol problem (however defined) exists at colleges. But, swinging the pendulum to the opposite side is hardly the solution. And, it scarcely promotes an environment in which one can learn to drink responsibly.

There is no simple answer to the college's dilemma. Initiating a dialogue with other colleges in the state and state lawmakers should be the first step the college takes in remedying this concern. In the meantime, the college's lack of communication with the student body of the potential implications of this law is alarming, and even irresponsible. The college is meeting with various state law enforcement officials to assess the problem and find solutions. Notifying the student body of its efforts and of the simple facts of the law would go a long way in preventing a sort of widespread panic overtaking the campus.

At the same time, the student body should be by no means absolved of its responsibility for upholding this law. The onus should be placed on students to take responsibility for themselves and for each other. No one supports the atrocious accidents which sparked this increased legislation. But absolute mandates with little foundation in pragmatism do nothing to prevent them.

The dangers which this law is designed to guard against are real, and we dare not ignore them. The dangers which this law unintentionally creates are equally real, and we dare not dismiss them. In the end, underage drinking comes down to tolerance and responsibility; they are two sides of the same coin. Tolerance must be shown for a crime which will inevitably be committed, and responsibility must be demonstrated in order to justify that tolerance. It is the initiation of this cycle that will most effectively curb the dangers of excessive drinking, but it is plain to see that stringent legislation is not and can never be the proper formula for achieving this end.

The Middlebury Campus

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Letters to the Editor

Gitenstein advocates different view

As I see it, here is the situation: Over the summer, the state of Vermont passed new legislation irrevocably altering the legal landscape. Now, any member of a social house or organization in which a minor is caught under the influence or in possession (in their hand or in their blood) of alcohol, is held legally liable for his or her violation of state liquor laws, to the extent of up to two years in prison and/or a $2,000 fine. To put it another way, if a 19 year-old first-year wanders into a social house intoxicated, or even after only having had a few drinks, not only is he or she in trouble, but now the president of the social house is at the risk of serious repercussions.

The Middlebury College community has reacted with fear. Some in the administration have taken to hiring lawyers, and social houses are finding the nightmarish possibilities too frightening to open their doors the way they have in the past. The insistent presence and looming shadow of the State Liquor Inspector hangs over Middlebury College, and many are scurrying for cover.

This leaves me at last week's Opinions section of the Campus. In it I find two very different editorials, the first by Jed Harris, president of ADP, and the second by Jake Feldman '01. I take little issue with Mr. Harris's response, in fact I found it refreshing. I am not a member of a house, and to be honest I don't spend much time at any of them, but I respect Mr. Harris's honesty and his reasonableness. But most of all, I appreciated his tone, which at least gave the impression that he was interested in finding a helpful and effective dialogue between the houses, the College and the state.

Mr. Feldman's response however, was something different. While I don't think it appropriate here to systematically decimate the piece, I do think it is my responsibility to expose the attitude underlying it. Mr. Feldman writes, "College has always been a refuge for underage drinking. Intoxicants have historically been a part of personal growth, which college should help facilitate." He goes on to continue that, "People often say that guns don't kill people, people do. Likewise, beer does not destroy property, people destroy property."

The thinking here is quite simple. College is a place for kids to drink and they should be allowed to do that as much as possible, in fact it is an integral part of "the college experience." So, when drinking causes problems it does so because of a puritanical administration attempting to suppress something that should be allowed to let be.

Every year thousands of teens die behind the wheel. In just the four years I have been at Middlebury, there have been at least three major alcohol related accidents. The pain, damage and loss of life those have caused becomes almost immeasurable in a community this small. Does alcohol play no role in these facts? Ask yourself honestly.

I do not support the new legislation. In fact I find it ridiculous and even dangerous. I think it risks forcing underage drinkers into drinking environments that are not monitored. I think it makes liable some who can not legitimately be held liable. But I respect where it comes from.

The question posed, however, cuts to the very heart of our country's Constitution, and the battle between individual rights and the public's safety. Inadvertently, Mr. Feldman has invoked the language of the National Rifle Association.

Whether it is beer or guns, the difficult question we are faced with is do we have the right to ban something which causes so much pain?

Kids drink. This is a reality, and we as a community must respect that. But when kids drink, they incur a terrible risk that can never be ignored. As we approach the process of positioning our college in the new landscape, we must respect these two realities.

Beer doesn't cause damage, take lives, and wreck futures, people do. But does that mean we should do nothing about it?

Ben Gitenstein is a member of the Middlebury College class of 1999.5.

Senior chastises alcohol fixation

I have grown ill of the articles about drinking in the Campus. I am sick of listening to the puffing and strutting about personal freedom and ridiculous excuses made for alcoholism.

It especially turns my stomach when writers acknowledge the dangerous and destructive effects they witness in themselves and their friends and then turn a blind eye to the need for reform.

I wonder how intelligent and socially concerned students can be in such flagrant denial and conformity just because drinking is something "everybody does."

I would like to offer an alternative perspective.

First, drinking is not a necessary part of growing up. Maturity is possible and actually better off without it.

If maturity is defined by becoming a free-thinking, independent, integrated person who can negotiate the ups and downs of life without expanses of deliberate incapacitation, we may wonder where in the world binge drinking would fit in.

Please do not get me wrong. I love partying and dancing. I think it's great to take a break from troubles and act silly.

What disturbs me is that many people don't feel free to do just that without five beers inside them. Why does our happiness play the subordinate to beer?

Learning to balance freedom and responsibility is an important part of life. Depending on alcohol to make those decisions blurs your ability to strike that balance within yourself.

And alcohol does make decisions for you. Rape and drunk driving statistics alone should make that a moot point. It is true many intelligent people feel burdened with their judgment and would like to get it off their back.

First, drinking is not a necessary part of growing up. Maturity is possible and actually better off without it.

Usually, however, this either means something about your judgment needs to change (yes, I can dance like a fool in McCullough and phooey on everyone else) or your judgment just might be right (Mmm, maybe it would only lead to hurt and alienation to hook up with my friend tonight).

You might not want to hear it, but maybe you should. Maybe you need to.

New laws have passed in Vermont which make supplying underage drinkers with alcohol a felony offense. It's no use whining.

Laws are always heavy-handed, otherwise they couldn't be fair. But the need for such a law in Vermont is clear.

We have an extremely high drinking rate among young people and too many deaths, young deaths, as a result. It's no use saying we're better at handling our liquor than the rest of the state. Look at us.

LOOK at us. We're not.

I agree with everyone that laws are a haphazard way to effect change. True reform must be both structural and personal. The social structures at Middlebury College facilitate a drinking culture. The Grille is a step in the right direction but (I apologize) social houses as they stand are not.

I am not familiar enough with the infrastructure of social houses to know what changes might free them from this unsavory role in the drinking culture, but I suggest social houses themselves consider this, and be pressured to consider it.

I also suggest that people stop whining and reform their attitudes about drinking and drinking safely. We alone are responsible for watching out for one another. We're friends here.

Jana Metevier is a member of the Middlebury College class of 1999.

Liberal democracy is America's present danger

Irakly Areshidze '00

American politics today are more like a circus than a discourse about the future of the most important nation in the world. We have a President who cannot keep his fly up. This leader of the free world is the laughing stock of that world. The Republican majority in Congress is not much better: these "representatives" can think of nothing but their own political future. Was it meant to be like this? I do not think so. I think the founders had something else in mind. American founders knew that such a circus was a dangerous possibility. They even tried to prevent it. The unfortunate case is that may be they did not go far enough in addressing the problem of free government.

We are often told that the true problem of a liberal democracy, (that's what social scientists like to call America) is that the government will infringe upon the rights of certain groups. This Thursday, for example, there will be a lecture here at Middlebury addressing the failure of representative government for women and minorities. All this may be a problem.

However, according to Herbert Storing, the true fear that the founders had was not that the government would not represent the people, but that the people would be unwilling to govern themselves. The founders, he writes, believed that "the main business of a free people is to establish and conduct good government." There was a fear that this free people would not be able to engage in "their main business." It is sad to say that the founders were right, the current circus of Washington is an example of people failing to govern themselves.

This circus started right after Watergate, when Congress passed the Independent Council Statue. According to this law, if the Attorney General feels that he has a conflict of interest in an investigation being conducted by the Justice Department into the President or cabinet members, he must ask a three judge panel to appoint an Independent Council to continue the investigation. This law is a strange phenomenon. The Constitution divides the Federal Government into three branches - - the legislative, the executive, and the judiciary. Each of these has different powers which it must use to achieve different ends. One of the duties of the legislature is to oversee the executive. The executive, on the other hand, is charged with executing and enforcing the law.

The Independent Council does not fit into this scheme; he is, in effect, a member of a fourth branch of government, created without a Constitutional Amendment, to take on the responsibilities vested in the legislature and the executive. If laws are being broken, it is the Justice Department's job to prosecute. If the executive branch is not doing its job, it is the legislature's job to oversee it. Yet the President and Congress, too dependent on polls to do their jobs, decided to change things around. They decided to forgo their responsibilities of governance. The result: the independent council law. Judge Ken Starr is one of the many Independent Councils investigating the Clinton administration. A few weeks ago he sent a report to Congress, arguing that the President committed high crimes and thus should be impeached. I think he is right. However, what is Congress doing? Certainly not governing or truly debating the charge. Rather, it is bickering as the Republican majority tries to get the most political victories by dragging this out longer and longer. The result: a caretaker president at the time when the world needs a strong leader. Asian economics are falling apart. Communism has all but returned to Russia (not that it was ever gone in reality), terrorists are attacking American embassies, Iraq, according to one former inspector, is building nuclear weapons, while India and Pakistan did build nuclear weapons. And what is the President doing while all this is going on? Certainly not governing. He is dropping a bomb or two on "terrorists," in order to change the subject, running around the country raising money for Democratic candidates for Congress so as to ensure that he can save himself if an impeachment case comes up, while his X-rated testimony and conversations with an intern are all over the television.

A few days ago I was sitting with some of my Freshmen (I am a JC in Stewart), and we were talking about this wonderful state of American politics. One of them remarked that "American politics just needs to be completely reformed." My response to him was not very positive. But as I thought about his comment some more, I realized that unintentionally he was right. Politics in America needs to change, but they do not need to become more democratic as most people assume. Rather, it must change in the other direction. At some point this century, we managed to turn this republic into a liberal democracy. Now, it is time to change it back.

Alexander Hamilton once wrote that "when occasions present themselves in which the interests of the people are at variance with their inclinations, it is the duty of the persons whom they have appointed to be the guardians of those interests to withstand the temporary delusions in order to give them [the people] time and opportunity for more cool and sedate reflection."

When I read this quote during the above mentioned conversation, one of the girls called it "illegal." Maybe so. Or maybe, Hamilton was right. We may end the circus and begin to govern ourselves again if our representatives thought just a little bit like Hamilton.

Macia derides foreign sweatshop labor

Antonio Macia '00

A few days ago it was brought to my attention that the United States government caught Guess? Inc. using sweatshops to produce their jeans. Guess what? So do most manufacturers of the clothing items we own. American consumers face a moral dilemma in trying to justify slave labor in order to satisfy our consumer appetites.

Growing markets and economic free zones have placed the U.S. in an envious position of being the world's leader in producing consumer goods. People around the globe can't wait to get their hands on American jeans, music, or sneakers. The name of the game is profits, and U.S. companies will change borders in order to ensure more "productive" facilities. This is nothing more than a sleazy way of finding labor at minimum costs.

I'm sure conservative economists simply smile and revel at capitalism in its purest forms. Hate to bust your bubble, but pure capitalism didn't quite survive here in the United States. During the Industrial Revolution, humanity paid the price. Anyone ever read The Jungle by Upton Sinclair, or Hard Times by Charles Dickens? The early twentieth century had unions, like the AFL-CLO, fighting for worker's rights. One assumes that child labor, forced overtime, and degrading health conditions would be ancient practices, but American companies are still using sweatshops.

U.S. companies have decided to sidestep union barriers, and go to less-developed nations to find cheap labor. Some would assert that these people are starving, and at least they are working. Of course, how could I forget the benevolence factor? Maybe because it doesn't exist. Companies only know one language: profit making. I concur that people are being put to work, but why do they put up with these conditions? Is it fair for U.S. citizens to expect parallel laws and treatment? These countries do work under a different value system, and can we transpose our morality?

The answer is both no and a resounding yes. Let me explain. Developing nations are still in the process of creating stable governments and economies. Many of these countries lack natural resources, but use their surplus of labor to attract foreign investors. These governments are usually unstable, and they will take capital any way they can get their hands on it.

U.S. companies have decided to sidestep union barriers and go to less developed nations to find cheap labor.

I have no problem with goods being produced outside the U.S., but U.S. companies should maintain health and labor laws. I believe that they are ambassadors and as such should maintain standards that are reflective of the most advanced and powerful nation in the world.

Here are a few ideas for our policy makers to implement. U.S. companies should be forced to reinvest in local economies by creating schools, hospitals, and paying wages that provide decent purchasing power to its workers.

The reason that the citizens of these nations take these jobs is because there are no options. Starve or slave labor? Creating schools will provide people an opportunity to get ahead. Children will have choices.

U.S. companies should pay at least a minimum wage that allows its workers to live above the poverty line.

Health centers will provide treatment to communities that lack resources to fight disease. These three changes will only benefit American companies by creating a more healthy, educated work force, which now has the power to purchase consumer goods.

While I am positive about the prospects of creating healthier working conditions in less developed nations, I realize that the journey will be long and exhausting. Companies will always try to maximize profits, but let us not forget that we are the consumer.

We have all the power. Students here at Middlebury can make a difference by simply saying no to Guess? Inc. I know it is only one company, but other companies will witness the affects of bad press.

As the world shrinks in a global market so should the difference between union laws.

The U.S. should lead in establishing universal labor laws. If we continue to export our free market form of slavery, then the U.S. consumer and U.S. government are guilty of hypocrisy.

Middlebury: The worst of both worlds

Brendan O'Donohoe '99

Today I woke up and was feeling a bit liberated. It felt good to know that I still have two more semesters before I take the plunge off the ten-meter board into the empty pool our guidance counselors call reality. I usually don't feel that way when I wake up. In fact, I usually feel excruciatingly trapped every morning when I wake up. I have often wondered why I feel this way, wondered exactly what is so confining about this forlorn valley where every night's sunset is an ocular awe, where the only thing that you really have to worry about is what a good job you are going to get after you get out of here.

Well, despite binging on 15 glasses of milk, among other substances, I still haven't resolved my feelings of entrapment. However, I dug through my drawer, which is imbedded in the wall of Forest, for non-black clothing. It didn't seem like much of a difference to me, but at the time of writing this article, a full twenty-six people had asked me what was wrong, why wasn't I wearing all black? And then it hit me: we go to a really small school.

Middlebury isn't a small place in terms of land. We own a ski-mountain, a golf course, a natatorium (Latin?), and something like a third of Vermont; but in terms of what gets around you will find out very quickly, if you haven't already, that all of the people you know will know who you hooked up with over the weekend, that you ate Golden Grahams the next morning with them, and then another substitute breakfast cereal for dinner, perhaps Fruit Loops, and how obliterated you got on Saturday night to start this whole chain (by the way, you can never break the Chain).

Now, everyone probably realized this before they came here. They probably realized that they were coming to a small liberal arts school and that they would be put under a microscope, similar to those nasonia with different colored eyes in Bio 195. But I am sure that they didn't realize that a couple of things were going to change when they got here. One is our great dining hall experience. According to the new Commons System Plan, we will have no more centralized dining, which means that you can't throw ten guys or girls on one side of the table to scope out the entire campus as they come to get their meals, because everyone will have to go to their own little cubby hole that will be a part of their commons. Frankly, it is a little bit disconcerting to think that right now, someone is trying to turn Middlebury into something that it is not. Middlebury is a place where people notice when you wear black, it is a place where people notice what you eat, and who you hook up with. There is a word for this, and it is called a community; a small town. Right now, they want to turn us into a big city complete with the little New York boroughs of commons. Well, "news flash" guys, the reason the commons system is found at a Harvard, or a Princeton (although they would rather you call them Eating Clubs), is because they want to give the students a feel for what it is to be in a community. A community where people look at your clothes, stare at what you eat, notice when you go running, ad infinitum, ad nauseam, ad absurdum. So when you are stuck in a long line at Proctor, or you are living in a lounge, or you can't get the class you want, think that you are getting the worst of both worlds.

Right now, they want to turn us into a big city complete with little New York boroughs of commons.

I know classes are a problem, especially when people tell me they had to assassinate the chair of the Spanish department to get into 101, and that it is absolutely impossible to have a class smaller than thirty people in the Bio department. Yet the really ironic thing is that this is from the same

(see O'Donohoe, page 9)

Puritanism rears its ugly head in modern day

Ted Adler '99.5

"For wee must Consider that wee shall be as a City upon a Hill."

- John Winthrop

In 1630, John Winthrop, the first governor of the colony of Massachusetts and recognized leader of the Puritan Movement in America, left England to create his city in the New World. While he believed he would build the next Jerusalem (the first city upon a hill), he probably never could have contemplated that the city would one day become the world's hegemonic power. The unparalleled individualism of the Puritan ethic became one of the building blocks of the "American Way," flourishing over the past 350 years.

However, Puritanism had a fatal flaw, a compulsory enemy. With the Anglican Church remaining in England, immorality became the "bad guy." This eventually led to the downfall of the movement, following the Salem Witch Trials of the late seventeenth century. Nonetheless, the puritans had already ingrained themselves into the American psyche. Their influence is still present today on both the national level and here at Middlebury. As a society we are suffering from an abundance of Puritan idealism.

In Washington, there is the tragic downfall of a president. "Perjury" and "Abuse of Power" may be the terms used to call for impeachment, however the case involving Monica Lewinsky is all about lying and sex. While the former is a crime unacceptable by a president, the current investigation is not the first time Clinton has lied; it is the first time he has been caught. Whitewater, "Travelgate" and the campaign fund-raising investigation did not come about due to honesty and integrity. Those offenses, however, were not deemed impeachable. Essentially, America had accepted their somewhat crooked President. The downfall of the Clinton Presidency is primarily due to a moral infraction: engaging in "sexual relations" with an intern half his age. The Lewinsky cover-up represents the icing on the cake.

The downfall of the Clinton presidency is primarily due to a moral infraction: engaging in "sexual relations" with an intern half his age.

The "losers" in this scenario, a quintessential American role, are the American people themselves. Clinton's offenses are irrelevant now that he has lost his ability to lead. When supposed terrorist bases are attacked, the opposition says "Don't Bomb Us For Monica." When there are economic and social issues to be discussed, the White House is producing rebuttals, not bills. Finally, with America as the undisputed international leader, the world must once again endure a leadership void during the final two years of Clinton's term.

Whether one supports Bill Clinton politically or not, the current situation is not beneficial to the country. Puritan moralism has toppled military men and women, congressmen and now a President. Only one question remains, how does this benefit the nation?

Puritanism is not monopolized in Washington. Without trivializing the current presidential debacle, the morality police are flourishing here at Middlebury. With the augmentation of ridiculous blue laws in Vermont, social leaders on campus are now presented with the distinct possibility of incarceration for a party that serves alcohol to those under-age. While the national drinking age is already preposterous (Have you ever seriously thought about the fact that most Middlebury students could die for their country, but not buy a beer), Vermont has raised the legal stakes, and Middlebury College has chosen to effusively enforce them.

It is general knowledge that the college does face liability concerns and threats of loss of funding due to the abuse of the puritanical alcohol statute. However, the remarkable expansion in enforcement over the past several years has resulted in a similar increase in abuse. Basically, the college's alcohol policy is not only dysfunctional, but it is making the problem worse. How would John Winthrop deal with closet drinking? Probably expulsion from this society. That may be the final result here on campus; not through the citation system, but due to the local police department.

As the leader of the modern world "the eyes of all people are upon us." The pendulum swing in favor of Puritanism has been extensively covered abroad. From Bill Clinton to laws restricting the sale of alcohol, these aspects of American society have become a source of both confusion and amusement around the world. Neither the Salem Witch Trials, nor the Red Hunt of the 1950s, qualify as great moments in American history. Not only compounding the problems of their eras, but their seemingly endless qualities were even more frightening. When the "Sexual McCarthyism" and the alcohol police currently predominant finally succumb to their own witch-hunting characteristics; who will they have benefited, and will it be too late?

Essentially, America had accepted its somewhat crooked president.

by Simon Adams

First-year critiques the new social scene

Molly McGlynn '02

Albert Einstein once said, "If A equals success, then the formula is A=X+Y+Z. X is work. Y is play. Z is keep your mouth shut." As a freshman, I have seen only one part of the equation put into place. That would be X, or work. I have become very familiar with this term in my first few weeks on campus. However, I have noticed a lack of Y and Z.

I would attribute this lack of play and keeping one's mouth shut to newly formed Vermont state law. This law was passed over the summer but the ramifications for the college were not truly felt until school began. Yet it was then that this law was felt in an immense way. Faced with the prospects of a felony charge, many of the social houses have taken time to reconsider their function at the college. And with this time of reconsidering, I can see the closing of a highly social era at Middlebury College.

Social houses for freshman provide one of the best arenas for amusement. We are able to socialize in a non-threatening environment with upperclassmen, which helps us to become oriented within the college community. This in turn helps us to build a network of peers that can lend us help when we need it and help guide us through our freshman year. This is rare because freshmen usually end up socializing within their own class. We live mostly in the freshman dorms and have introductory classes that rarely contain upperclassmen. Freshmen are of their own living sphere and it is rare that they are able to venture from it. Sports and extracurricular activities often help mix freshmen and upperclassmen, but they usually limit interaction to these situations only.

Social houses also serve as a safe drinking place for freshmen. The houses are crowded with people and so it does make obtaining large amounts of alcohol difficult. Also, drinking in social situations makes drinking behind closed doors avoidable. As freshmen, drinking behind closed doors can be particularly harmful. This is due to oft-inflated freshman egos and a general lack of knowledge about personal tolerances. Most freshmen have probably experienced drinking in high school but college is a whole different story. There are no longer ever-watching parents, and this creates to some extent the idea of complete freedom.

This idea of freedom can lead to destructive drinking, or drinking that harms the drinker and other members of the college. In a social situation, peers can watch over friends and can help to prevent excessive drinking and destructive drinking. When students drink behind closed doors they don't have peers to regulate drinking.

Additionally, when students drink outside of the presence of others they don't have an outside person to take them to the Health Center if need be. Furthermore, they usually are not in the position to make the determination for themselves about when they need professional attention because of their intoxication level. Another factor that makes closed door drinking dangerous for freshmen is a lack of knowledge about the surrounding area. This can create dangerous scenarios for freshmen. The probability of getting lost or hurt is an all too real possibility when in a foreign setting.

If the social houses close to freshman, a viable social option is eliminated. Therefore success, or A, has become impossible to obtain. The college needs to look at the fact that as a freshman, there is not a lot else you can in fact do.

The fact of the matter is Middlebury is a small town, and small towns do not have many social options, if any. The social houses contribute a lot to the student body and the social side of the college. Hopefully, this will be realized and we can just do a lot of Z, keeping mouths shut about what goes on.

O'Donohoe calls for a continuance of status quo

(continued from page 9)

person whose smallest class is the one he had to kill to get into, and whose normal class size for an upper level seminar is about the attendance of our football games.

So what solutions are there for us? Should we all jump out on the bus to Ripton, to where my Freshman Hall has somehow escaped? Well, I would say yes except that the bus gets pretty expensive and not everyone has cars, which may prove to be a shock to some people. Yes, that's right, not everybody has a car. One person told me at dinner that the problem with Middlebury is that everyone is too rich, and that we should all be driving tractors. He then followed up this argument by saying that there also were not enough "dirtbags" at the school. Someone else at the table argued that there weren't enough "preppies." Now, I myself would say that most of the preppies here are in fact dirtbags, so why isn't everybody happy? But then, with a little discussion, this same individual from Burlington who advocated dirtbag acceptance by the Deans thought a "hoe-down" would ameliorate matters. The preppie agreed, and what do you know, we found out something that pleased us all, despite our differences.

So what I would like to point out to the administration, if they read this paper, because I know that they don't listen to the student body from the fact that the new Commons proposal has gotten this far, is that small town things like class size, scrutiny, "hoe-downs," and wearing all black aren't necessarily things that we should change just to be like people in Eating Clubs. After all, you know, sometimes even a preppy will enjoy a good "hoe-down."

Anderson '40 completes Bicentennial Run on eightieth birthday

By Laurie Manus
Staff Writer

Despite the athletic strengths of the typical "Midd Kid," there are few students who could compete with the physical shape of one member of the Middlebury College class of 1940.

R.C. Anderson '40 celebrated his eightieth birthday Saturday by completing the final five-mile leg of the college's Bicentennial Celebration Run, which ended at a halftime ceremony during the Middlebury-Wesleyan football game.

Anderson completed the leg between Bennington and Shaftsbury, which measured approximately 5.4 miles. He ran and walked his leg of the run and like most great athletes, he modestly down-played his excellent physical shape. (He probably does not realize that this is a difficult feat for many college students who are supposedly in their physical prime).

Courtesy Photo

R.C. Anderson '40, Don Thompson '77 and a friend stand proudly after completing the final leg of the Bicentennial Run.

Anderson firmly believes that physical fitness is an important factor in his life. "Being in-shape makes sense!" he said. From his perspective, exercise helps you think and work better, thus making helping others easier.

Anderson said that while he was running and walking he took advantage of the time to reflect on his life and to meditate. Anderson emphasized the importance of Middlebury in his career and lifetime. Anderson, who enjoyed his seventy-fifth birthday at the summit of Killington Mountain, decided that he wanted to celebrate this important day at Middlebury, the place he called home for four important years.

"My whole life hinged upon Middlebury," said Anderson. "Middlebury made the difference in my life."

Anderson attended Middlebury during the Depression when he received a full tuition scholarship and worked as a salad chef at Breadloaf. This was during the time when Robert Frost still lived in the area. Anderson now has a Ph.D. in organic chemistry and he credits Middlebury for preparing him so well for his future by giving him an excellent "bench," or laboratory-oriented education. He graduated in 1940 from Middlebury with a degree in chemistry and also majors in American literature and philosophy. Anderson ran cross country as a first-year student in 1937 but he was unable to continue with any sports due to his intense academic schedule.

Anderson has enjoyed walking and hiking during his whole life. Immediately after he graduated from Middlebury, Anderson hiked the approximately 200-mile Long Trail that spans the length of Vermont. The book "Footpath" in the Wilderness, which is a compilation of articles related to the history of Middlebury, relates Anderson's journey.

Now, as the college's bicentennial approaches, Anderson returned 60 years later to mark the beginning of Middlebury College's long history.

The Bicentennial Celebration Run, which began on Sept. 11, continued for three successive weekends before it ended in the Youngman field 15 days later.

Alumni, family and friends of Middlebury retraced the 200 mile horseback route that Timothy Dwight, president of Yale College in 1798, took from New Haven, Connecticut to Middlebury in order to discuss the possibility of founding a college in Vermont.

Each leg of the run was approximately five miles long and the teams of two to four runners carried a replica of Gamaliel Painter's cane along the entire route.

Painter's cane in part symbolizes the strong relationship between the town and the college since Painter, a leading Middlebury citizen, collaborated with Dwight and others to charter the college in 1800. He later left his cane and a large portion of land to the college.

A larger group of runners joined Anderson at the Middlebury Town Green and ran the final half mile from to the football stadium, where the college and community honored them at the halftime ceremony.

The idea for the run was conceived more than a year ago by Bob Gleason, former professor of chemistry. Along with the help of Track Coach Martin Beatty '84 and his wife Barbara, Gleason helped make his brain child a reality. Beatty and fellow classmate Andy Zehner '84 kicked off the run by completing the first leg of the course from the Phelps Gate of Yale

After completing five miles, Beatty and his wife followed the cane and its runners in a special van for the rest of the route.

"We came up every inch of the way," said Beatty.

College places seventh in U.S. News study

By Kristine Palmero
Features Editor

Fall classes at high schools nationwide have been in session for the past few weeks and this year's crop of high school seniors is no different than the last. They are meeting with their college counselors, spending weekends touring and interviewing at multiple colleges, receiving mass amounts of admissions office mail and choosing which ones to save and which to toss into the trash.

They will read the *Princeton Review*, *Barrons* and perhaps the most popular college review of all, *US News and World Report's* annual guide to colleges, which seems to have simplified the college search by turning these institutions into a number crunch. But what appears to be quantitative is more subjective than the rankings and percentages actually show.

This year, Middlebury College ranked seventh, tying with Bowdoin College in Maine, among national liberal colleges. With an overall score of 91 percent, an academic reputation score of 4.2, student selectivity at 9 and freshman retention at 95 percent, Middlebury definitely looks good in black and white. But what do these numbers mean?

"When we consider what [the rankings] mean, we have to think about the reality of the situation," said Phil Benoit, director of Public Affairs. "If an institution is ranked seventh, is it demonstrably better than a college that is ranked ninth?"

According to Benoit, the ranking has just as much to do with image as substance.

Some students agreed. "Although it is great that Middlebury is ranked seventh in the country, it doesn't mean that we are that much better than Washington and Lee or Colby, or any worse than Swarthmore or Pomona," said Mike Hartt '01. "It is all splitting hairs. Within the 'Top 25' the education provided is excellent all around and really doesn't differ too much between schools."

Although other factors such as financial assistance, location or graduation rate play a part in picking a college, for many international students, college rank is extremely important. In foreign countries, one college's popularity can make the difference between getting a job and unemployment. "Coming from Singapore," said Matsurah Ismail '00, "Middlebury's rank is important because [future employers] are very interested in Middlebury's name and place among colleges."

Zack Wyman '02 also admitted that "Middlebury's rank definitely played a part, primarily in terms of the foreign language department when I began the college application process."

Benoit recognizes the importance of the numbers, saying that "alumni, present students and perspective students put a great deal of stock in the US News and World Re-

(see Middlebury, page 13)

The Grille's menu mixes familiar and varied fare

By Hilary Watts
Staff Writer

Are you hungry? Tired? Are classes causing you pain and anxiety? Do you long for a place to go where you can unwind and relax? A place where you can shoot pool or play foosball? A place where you can hear a wide variety of music or keep posted on the Clinton scandal? A place where everybody knows your name?

Well, maybe it is not exactly "Cheers," but you no longer have to go to Boston, New York or Canada to experience the ambiance of a big city-style bar. With the recent addition of the Grille, Middlebury students can now enjoy a restaurant-style atmosphere right on campus.

So, is the food comparable to some of the finer restaurants in town? The general consensus seems to suggest that the Grille will be used as more than just a snack bar, especially as it keeps up with the latest trends in twentieth century technology.

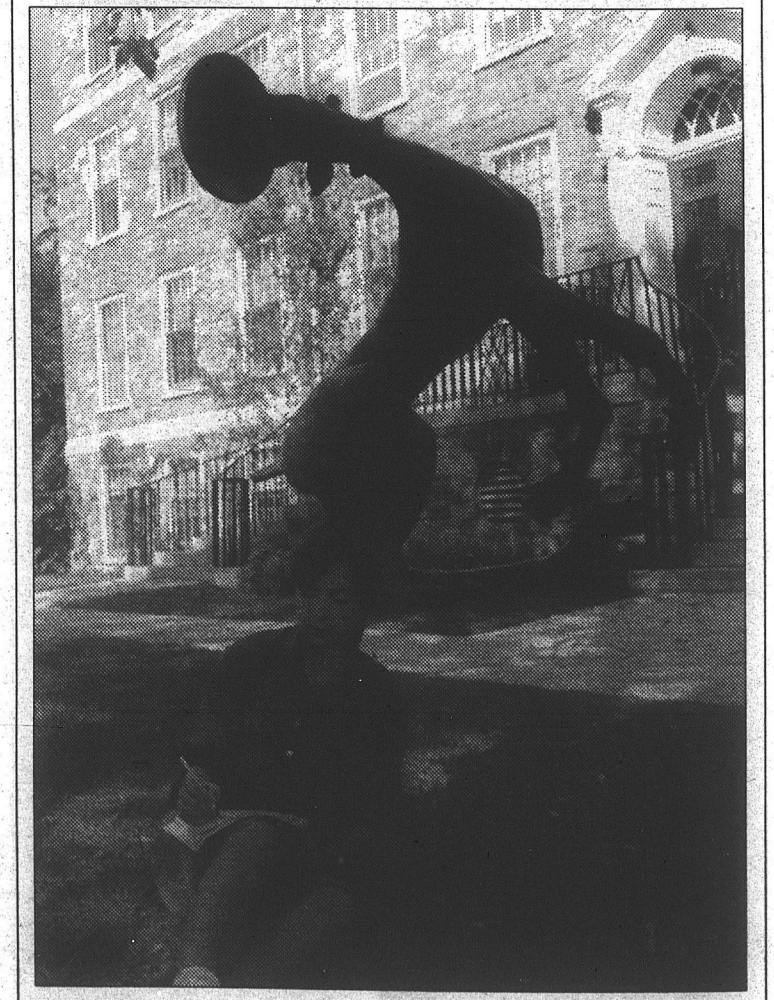
If you have yet to order a hot meal there, you may not be familiar with the beeper system for picking up food. Like the most technologically advanced restaurants, the Grille uses some appropriately high-tech looking little devices which vibrate when your order is ready.

The Grille provides a variety of hot and cold appetizers and entrees. As appetizers, the sweet-potato fries and mozzarella sticks are both viable options. The fries not only provide a tasty variety from the standard French fries, they are also less starchy and don't necessarily require adornments such as ketchup or salt to make them taste better. The mozzarella sticks are also, according to Michael Hartt '01, "very good. I'm glad that something that people enjoyed in the Crest Room is also available at the Grille."

The most popular entree seems

(see Grille, page 12)

Dog-gone days of summer



Travis Zadeh

Lisa Janicki '99, *catches up on reading and rays on what may be fall's first and last Indian Summer.*

Coach Smith reveals the voice behind the message

By Mary Tucker
Features Editor

Beep. Beep. Beep. "You have one new message. Ready." You press five with eager fingers, and the name you hear is as familiar as any other voice: Bob Smith. 1:53 a.m. You know his voice so well. You feel like you know him too. There he is so many times a week, making you feel important because you have new voice mail. Sometimes he's the first voice you hear in the morning or the last before you go to sleep. But would you recognize the man if you walked by him on the street?

I decided to seek out the mystery man behind the phone. It was imperative that I put a face with a voice, that I unmask the phantom. Setting up an interview with him was an interesting experience. I was greatly amused to get a "live" voice mail announcing "Bob Smith." Then continuing, "Hey Mary, this is Coach Smith. I got your message..." What a keeper that was. Bob Smith had ceased to be intangible, an illusion. I had begun to bridge the gap.

Walking over to Memorial Field House, I thought about who I had always imagined Bob Smith to be: a slightly stern man, tall, dark and very intense. It's funny how much you think you can tell from a voice; but in this case I couldn't have been more wrong. Walking into his sunny office, a man, reclining in his chair and listening to Bruce Springsteen, with a bright smile and sandy-colored hair, greeted me warmly. "Do you mind if I keep the music on?" he asked.

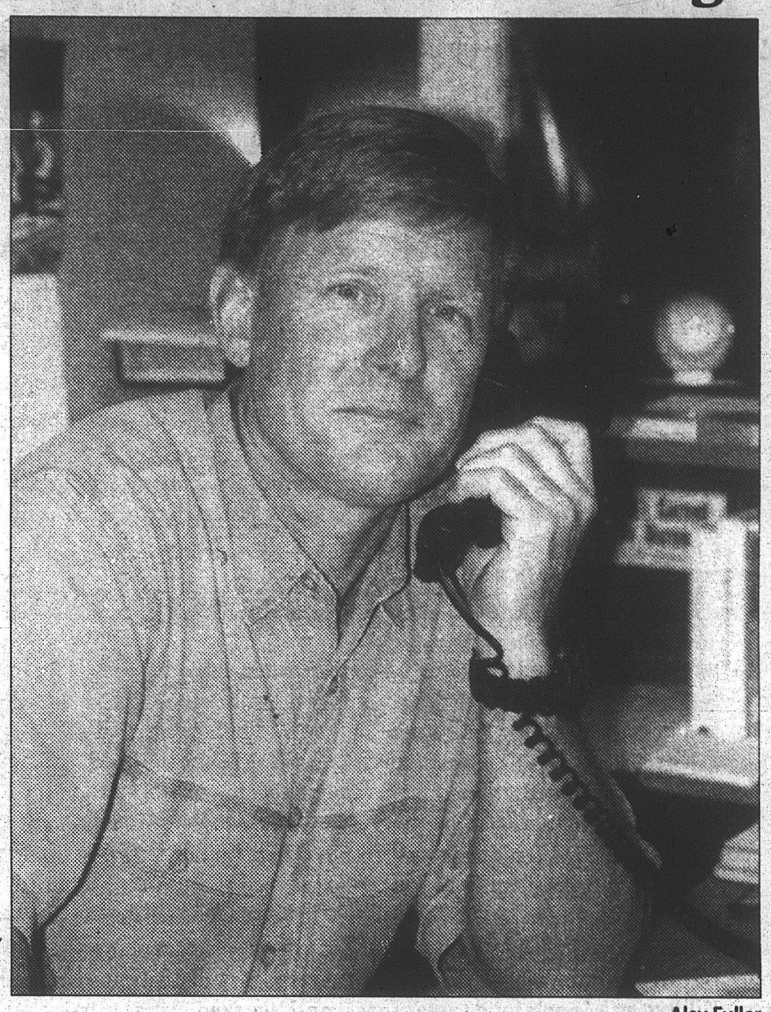
When I told him why I was there, he said, "I think its comical that I'm the mystery man behind the phone. Sometimes I meet people, and they say, oh... your the three, five Coach Smith. I know that a lot of the messages I send out don't pertain to everyone," he said, "but I hope some people benefit from them."

I suppose it must be quite a thrill to have to have the campus's attention at your fingertips. Anyone who stayed on campus till the bitter end last year may remember former SGA president Bryan Stratton's '98 inability to resist the urge to send just one more campus wide voice mail to say good-bye.

"I think I've sent out six voice mails already this week," Smith said. "We go through some busy periods and some lighter periods. It [voice mail] makes it so easy to get the word out about what's happening in athletics," he said. "Before it was difficult trying to reach so many small, specialized groups of people."

Coach Smith's official title is Director of Physical Education, Intramurals, and Club Sports. In addition, he will be the Baseball Coach this year. Originally from South Jersey, he attended the University of Delaware, where he realized his passion for all sports and for physical well-being. "I think you just naturally gravitate towards doing what you're naturally best at," he said. "In my case, I enjoyed all athletics and that's where my interest lay. Why not teach physical ed?"

Coach Smith's profession has taken him from the high school to the college level. While teaching virtually every sport, his emphasis has been in track, baseball, and football. He came to Middlebury with his late wife in 1979 as a track coach and has lived in nearby Weybridge for the past eight years.



Alex Fuller

Coach Smith gets caught up in telephone wires as he leaves voice mail.

I think athletics at Middlebury is about having a sound mind and body. There's a necessity for a fit body... –Bob Smith

I was struck by Coach Smith's philosophy and passion for his work. "I think athletics at Middlebury is all about having a sound mind and body. I think that's the theme of this entire campus. There's a necessity for a fit body, and a great support here for physical awareness." Since he came to Middlebury, the Coach's role has expanded. Working with so many sports and programs, Smith says, "I've encountered so many more backgrounds. I've met so many people I never knew before."

Coach Smith was especially articulate about a "wellness" class he's developing with other faculty members for this J-term. If you thought about taking ballroom dancing or cooking on the side, think again.

Coach Smith is hoping to offer two P.E. credits for those who sign up for his class, which could be a huge help to those of us who have been slow in fulfilling our physical education requirement before we graduate.

"I've been able to grow with the [athletic] program to work on wellness aspects," he said. "This J-term class will work on having a sound body, on how to relax, on taking care of yourself, on the benefits of cutting back on some things, like alcohol, and the dangers of cutting back on other things, like with anorexia. We're going to do a lot of snow shoeing, walking and running."

On his wall Coach Smith has a photograph of his two sons when they were younger, who take after their father with their sandy hair and their broad smiles.

His younger son Denny is now a junior at the Kent School in Kent, Connecticut, and his oldest son Matthew is a junior at Colby in Waterville, Maine. Smith says proudly that Denny is considering coming to Middlebury because he is excited by how much the school has to offer.

Coach Smith painted a picture of athletics at Middlebury by saying, "It's just great to go out and see the amount of involvement here. I walk out to the athletic fields in the early morning and they're empty, but come early afternoon there's no space left. It's really rewarding for me to see programs that people are so involved in."

"Middlebury is an excellent fit for me," Smith concluded, "I came here with a lot of different backgrounds, but the longer I'm here I see this is a great place because of the energy level that exists here."

THE HOMESTRETCH

By Christian Botting
Staff Writer

Despite vague throbbings of anxiety over a final pre-season, and senior seminars, and comps and theses, my homecoming to Middlebury after an eight month absence was something I had been looking forward to for quite some time. Phantoms of the "home stretch," of the final countdown to graduation, are haunting me more than ever now, as are the questions of friends and family who wish to know where I am headed after graduation before I myself know for certain. However, I have done my best to stall and evade any and every probe and pry.

I felt a brief momentary nostalgia this summer as I went through the process of "strategic packing," of jamming my car full with all of my collegiate essentials, for the last time of my undergraduate career. The last slam of the trunk echoed silently in my ears for many minutes, giving a sense of finality that I had not been expecting. Even the reactions of my family and friends were toned down a level or two this summer as one and all seemed content to shrug off my departure, knowing that it was to be my last year here in Vermont. I had many things to consider on the drive up here; various loose ends and gray areas to work out. If not anything else, at least the ride itself was peaceful enough.

It did not take long at all to settle myself and throw my energy into all of the activities that I felt obligated or driven to do. I felt as though I had been lax for too long, that Europe had sharpened certain particulars within me, and yet had softened many other essentials. I knew that the first few weeks would be a significant test of stamina and that it would take a weighty amount of willpower and caffeine to fight the good fight.

Hemmed in from all sides by academics and extracurriculars, I constantly knock my head against the closed shell that is this college community. I could tell you what offensive schemes the football team is putting in this week, discuss either the annotated biography of Honoré de Balzac and the convoluted character movement in War and Peace, and yet I cannot for the life of me follow all of the attacks and counterattacks which have been occurring in Washington of late. This is nothing to be ashamed of. After all, it's senior year, I'm back at "home," and I'm busy.

ALCOHOL SYMPOSIUM '98

WEDNESDAY -- SEPTEMBER 30, 1998

4:15 -- 5:30 PM McCullough — "A Panel of Alcohol Experts: Middlebury Alumni Share Their Expertise" Discussion groups and dinner follow.

THURSDAY -- OCTOBER 1, 1998

4:15 PM McCullough — "When Jekyll Dances with Hyde --- A New Look at Getting High". Mr. Guy Kettelhack

7:30 PM McCullough — "Misperception of College Student Drinking Norms: The Reign of Error" Dr. Wes Perkins

TUESDAY -- OCTOBER 6, 1998

12:00 NOON — Brown Bag Lunch Discussion McCullough Alcohol and the Middlebury Community.

WEDNESDAY -- OCTOBER 7, 1998

4:15 PM McCullough — "Faculty as a Critical Link in Alcohol Prevention Strategies" Dr. Gerald Garrett

7:30 PM McCullough — "Addiction and Recovery: Real People, Real Stories". A panel of Middlebury Alumni who are in recovery.

9:30 PM McCullough — Coffee House. Substance Free Theme. Main Social Space

THURSDAY -- OCTOBER 8, 1998

4:15 PM McCullough — "Drinking at Middlebury: Special Concerns for College Women" Ms. Yonna McShane

7:30 PM Chapel — "Under the Influence: The Selling of Addiction" Dr. Jean Kilbourne. Reception and discussion follow.

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Semester in Russia continues to be popular despite nation's troubles

By Bryn Kenny
Staff Writer

Despite Russia's current economic shambles and its wavering political future, 16 intrepid Middlebury students chose to study abroad this semester in Moscow, the capital of a land which is a far cry from the peace and serenity of Middlebury's rolling hills.

Though the prospects of such an existence seem daunting, the college study abroad program has yet to receive any negative feedback.

"Before the students went was a pivotal time because access to cash was not easy," said Elizabeth Ross, associate director of off-campus study.

Students were advised to travel mainly with cash, in dollars, and only a small portion of money in traveller's checks. Credit cards and ATM withdrawals are no longer a viable method of commerce in Russia.

But, those in the study abroad office maintain the problem of monetary availability will most probably be the only problem students will face.

"As far as the crisis, I'd say that it is as devastating for the Russian people as it is beneficial for an American traveler," said Tobias Dougherty '00, a Middlebury student currently studying abroad in Moscow.

"That is, as the ruble plummets the dollar soars. In the first week we were here, I believe the value of the dollar doubled. Knowing that the bulk of one's assets are in dollars is extremely comforting."

Though Americans enjoy a fairly stable economy and government, a state of unrest and revolution is hardly unknown to the Russian people and has actually become a way of life for them in the twentieth century. The most recent series of crises is merely another link in a chain history of instability.

"Middlebury students have been in Russia since 1977," said Russian history professor David Macey. "During that time, three leaders have died, there has been a collapse of an empire, hyper-inflation, Chernobyl and none of these things have had a direct influence. That's true now."

Possibly, this stability in the face of crisis has a lot to do with the fact that students abroad in Russia are guaranteed a sufficient amount of food, shelter and financial resources well before they board the plane to Yaroslavl, Varonezh or Moscow. Middlebury students are affected only indirectly by the experiences of their Russian friends.

Possibly, this stability in the face of crisis has a lot to do with the fact that students abroad in Russia are guaranteed...food, shelter and financial resources.

"My [Russian] roommate is having serious trouble as the result of the crisis," said Dougherty. "He can't find work other than that which would effectively pay $20 dollars a month.

Another Russian friend was working in a bookstore for six rubles a day. He had to quit working altogether because six rubles became 30 cents for a while."

On the other hand, Middlebury students are pretty well taken care of. Their tuition is paid for, host families are paid an ample amount of money to provide for the students and there's always the option of returning to Vermont.

In spite of the growing political and financial crisis, the study abroad experience exposes students first-hand to a history and a culture very different from their own. For better or worse, they are watching history unfold and bear witnesses to events most Americans only read about in the newspaper. Dougherty reflected on a recent experience he had while searching for a winter coat near Red Square.

"Not realizing exactly where I was and suddenly wondering as to my whereabouts, for it had grown quite dark, I turned to take a look around. Behind me stood the illuminated St. Basil's Cathedral alongside the Kremlin wall running the length of the square.

The sight was fantastic. The square, the Kremlin, was once the very core of the communist union our generation was conditioned to see as the ultimate enemy. Seeing it from the other direction is unique

The Grille offers sophistication and edible dishes

(continued from page 10)

to be the plain pizza, which comes in one huge, $2.00 slice. Although both Jennifer Masiak '01 and Olive Thomas '01 enjoyed their slice, they had their own vision of the perfect slice. "[The] pizza would be perfect with Neil and Otto's (pizza cellar in town) sauce and cheese and the Grille's crust."

The stromboli was met with mixed feelings. "For $3.25, I imagined it to be larger than it was, although it was partially redeemed by the taste," remarked Thomas. "Overall, however, I was disappointed and I don't think I'd order it again."

Kristine Palmero '01 had the apple barbecue chicken, which she found "yummy," and an adequate portion for the $3.75 price-tag.

I had the chicken stir-fry wrap, which I found delicious. The vegetables and chicken were of a perfect moisture consistency, as I don't like stir fry which is either too dry or too wet.

This meal also comes with a side salad and rice, a good sized plate for the reasonable price of $3.75. I would definitely order this again and recommend it to any stir fry fan. It is also available in the beef variety.

After dinner, the juice bar downstairs offers beverage possibilities, some of which could double for a dessert. Susannah Beams '01, liked the hot chocolate, which she deemed "very good." Continued Beams, "I like the fast service as well."

The milkshakes, at $2.50 a cup, were a little "chintzy" according to Thomas, and suggested $1.75 as a more appropriate price.

While Thomas also said she really enjoyed the vanilla shake despite its richness and her inability to finish it, Masiak said she did not enjoy hers at all. "I'm glad the Campus paid for this and not me."

I liked my chocolate shake, although I agree that it was a little too rich. It could be almost be a meal on its own.

Finally, a glimpse of Grille food would not be complete without mentioning the "granita." Granita is similar to a snow cone, except that it is constantly churned in real juice, rather than being sprayed with syrup which congeals and manifests a glue-like quality at the bottom of the ice, as in a snow-cone.I have yet to encounter anyone who dislikes this tasty frozen snack.

Charlotte Sikes '00 found granita to be a delightful treat. "It's in a small cup, which at $1.25 still holds a lot of ice, and it's frozen and fun to eat." Whether it be strawberry-kiwi, cranberry, or mango flavored, the granita is a great bargain. It's also good for the passing-through snack on the way to class, as crunching on ice is a sure way to relieve tension.

Overall, the Grille offers a great place not only to socialize, but to eat. You can eat in a booth, at the bar or in the huge Circuit City-sized TV room.While there are still a few kinks in the system that need to be fine-tuned, the Grille offers a good mix of sophisticated entrees and good-old Crest Room-style junk food.

Alex Fuller

The Grille is the perfect place for a cup of coffee, a glass of granita or pizza.

I think I can... I think can...

Josh Nothwang

Fully-geared and rearing to go, *a mountain biker hits the trails to practice his skills and enjoy the early fall foliage*

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Latest college guide lauds Middlebury's 'classical' curriculum

By Megan Sowards
Editor in Chief

A recent mention in the Sunday New York Times of Middlebury's vaunted standing in a new and so-called "right-wing" guide to colleges has Middlebury talking. Those who should know the college best–its students, alumni and faculty–doubt the tactics of the article in which, on first glance, Middlebury appears to be a bastion of right-wing conservatism.

William Honan's article, which ran Sept. 6, claims "Middlebury College...is praised as 'a rarity in higher education today in that multiculturalist talk seems to be waning rather than gathering strength." Honan cites this quote as evidence for the college's adherence to what he deems the "neoconservative" stance advocated by the 672-page guide.

First alerted to the guide's existence by the New York Times article, President John McCardell originally surmised that it offered "a collection of odd schools."

"With the exception of a few particulars, the guide makes a good effort to describe the college," said McCardell after reading the entire write up.

Throughout his review, Honan paints a skewed picture of a "frankly conservative" guide which he says "criticizes many institutions for unchecked political correctness" and derides the "political biases of academe, the prevalence of permissive sex and the lack of core curriculums."

Honan's portrays the guide as a publication which might excoriate any college which doesn't hang an icon of Ronald Reagan in its student union. But, his frankly politicized interpretation of the book couldn't be further from the mark.

While the guide, called "Choosing the Right College" has a definite and conservative point of view, which advocates the liberal arts in its classical sense, it hardly dwells on a school's political leanings as Honan suggests.

The guide's editor, Gregory Wolfe, writes that many "radical theorists have turned the academic podium into a bully pulpit for attacks on many of the Western ideas and institutions that undergird our American order." Though contentious, Wolfe's statements have more to do with a conservative approach to education than with politics.

The guide is compiled by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, a group comprised of approximately 60,000 members on almost every college campus in America. Founded by staunch conservative William F. Buckley, the organization relies on a wide-ranging number of sources including first-hand interviews with professors and administrators, questionnaires and scrutiny of web sites, catalogues and independently written news articles to compile its descriptions of America's top 100 schools.

Perhaps due to its comprehensive approach and despite Honan's decontextualized quote about the decline of multiculturalist talk, the publication's write-up of Middlebury College offers a refreshing and informed perspective which focuses mainly on the college's curriculum.

The guide notes that "Middlebury has done an admirable job in preserving a sense of the importance of the liberal arts." An insightful and remarkably current description of Middlebury's distribution requirements, freshman seminar program and 4-1-4 semester schedule follows.

Its writing style steers clear from the typical and tired cliches oft used to describe Middlebury and instead quotes faculty and administrators (without attribution). It is not afraid to praise professors and departments by name, citing history, political science, English and American literature as "'very strong'" areas of study.

It also takes on the mystique of Middlebury's foreign language departments, carefully separating the school's reputation earned through its innovative summer school program, from its regular school year curriculum. While it celebrates Middlebury's five schools abroad and the host of other programs available to juniors, it claims that "Middlebury's reputation for foreign language studies...is overblown." This careful nuance has gone unnoticed by other guides in the past such as the Insider's Guide to Colleges and the Fiske Guide both of which fail to examine the distinctions between the summer program and the regular academic year.

A right-wing bent does shine through in the rare instance that the guide criticizes Middlebury. It decries Middlebury's Women's Studies major and cites it as one in a handful of "politicized" courses which stray from the Western tradition.

Its section on the political atmosphere at Middlebury, entitled "Weathering the Multicultural Storm," offers an informed look at the college's development over the course of the last decade. It is from this portion that the New York Times lifted the quote about waning "multiculralist talk" at Middlebury today. But, it fleshes out this argument stating that "Middlebury has pursued a more reasoned version of diversity than that found at some of its competitors."

While published before the advent of last spring's protests that criticized the college's approach to race relations and issues of gender and homosexuality, the guide supports its claims with quotes from a broad spectrum of professors and faculty in-step with the current political climate at Middlebury College.

The guide's major downfall is its portrayal of student life. Unlike other guides it avoids quoting students all-together. Its description of the commons system appears to come straight from a press release, with little attention given to student's current lack of enthusiasm for the present system.It says the commons system, "seems to be an excellent way for students and faculty to relate to one another as adults." On first appearance, this claim seems reasonable enough. Yet, the guide fails to delve into student opinion to ascertain whether students indeed make use of these opportunities.

And, of course, it cites the Snow Bowl and the golf course as evidence of the "superb" opportunities for outdoor activity.

While the guide's description of Middlebury falls down in the all-important area of student life, its examination of Middlebury's political climate and more especially its academic environment offers a perceptive and accurate depiction of the college and avoids overtly cloying endorsements of a particular political philosophy.

Fast Facts about Middlebury from "Choosing the Right College"

~More than one-third of the student body majors in the social sciences and history, fully 10 percentage points ahead of the average for similar institutions.

~Nearly 12 percent of the student body majors in foreign languages and literatures, a rate almost four times the national average.

~Environmental studies attracts about five percent of students, a large number for that field.

Middlebury is up one notch in 1998

(continued from page 10)

port." Despite the trust put in the magazine, forgetting that the surveys are subjective, not objective, is a task too easy.

"[The importance of the US News and World Report] varies from person to person." said Michael Schoenfeld, dean of Enrollment Planning. "But the US News list is like good advertising. It may play a significant role primarily if a student learns for the first time about Middlebury from the list, but it's the closer look that will make the difference. If the list makes the student say 'Gee, Middlebury ranks pretty well' and then apply to Middlebury, then it is important."

As for Middlebury's rise from eighth to seventh, Schoenfeld said that Middlebury in 1996 ranked seventh and slipped to eighth in 1997. "Statistically, the difference is so small that there really isn't that much of a difference. The last two years have been more competitive in terms of admissions and that may have made the difference," said Schoenfeld.

Middlebury accepts approximately 31 percent, which translates to a little over 580 from an applicant pool of over 4,400 students.

To gather the data necessary to compile the rankings, U.S. News and World Report sends out a questionnaire, completed by the university and college presidents and other officials, in the spring before the magazine's annual college guide.

The data is then collected and the so-called "number crunching" begins. The category which receives the heaviest weighted score at 25 percent is academic reputation, which as the name suggests, is based not on fact but on other college's perceptions of each other. US News and World Report defines academic reputation as "the average rating of the quality of a school's academic programs as evaluated by officials at similar institutions" with college officials rating other schools on a scale of one to five. "[Academic reputation] is the swimsuit competition portion in the vernacular," said Benoit, "because it is entirely subjective. It doesn't depend on performance but on the average score given by presidents and officials to other colleges. It is the most controversial and volatile category."

What makes academic reputation even less reliable as criteria is the fact that only an approximate 59 percent of the surveys are returned and there is no telling whether the responses are from the presidents or the academic officers only, or whether a school turned in a response at all. In conjunction with Middlebury's academic reputation is its institutional persona. With the current commons plan, Middlebury is often compared to a "little Yale" and is often on the same forwarded e-mail list which puts Middlebury up there with other Ivy League institutions and colleges like Amherst and Williams.

Of this comparison, Benoit said, "Middlebury tries to be the best Middlebury it can be. We visit other colleges to learn what's right and what's wrong but in the end, we take away what is best for our college...We have an excellent faculty, students and an academic atmosphere that is uniquely Middlebury."

Campus Voices

If you could rename The Grille, what would you name it?

Compiled by Mark Hamilton

Photos by Mark Hamilton

"Quipi's... it's a kickin' name for a kickin' place."

— Ally Quady '01.5

"Parrot's perch. It helps put us into the Carribean world."

— Zach Long '01.5

"The Zoobolie Zoo Cafe. Where magic and wonder are waiting for you."

— Zach Kowall '01

"The place with the big TV, because there's a big TV."

— Chris Orchard '00

Bebe Miller Company confronts audience's perception of dance

By Thaya Brook
Arts Editor

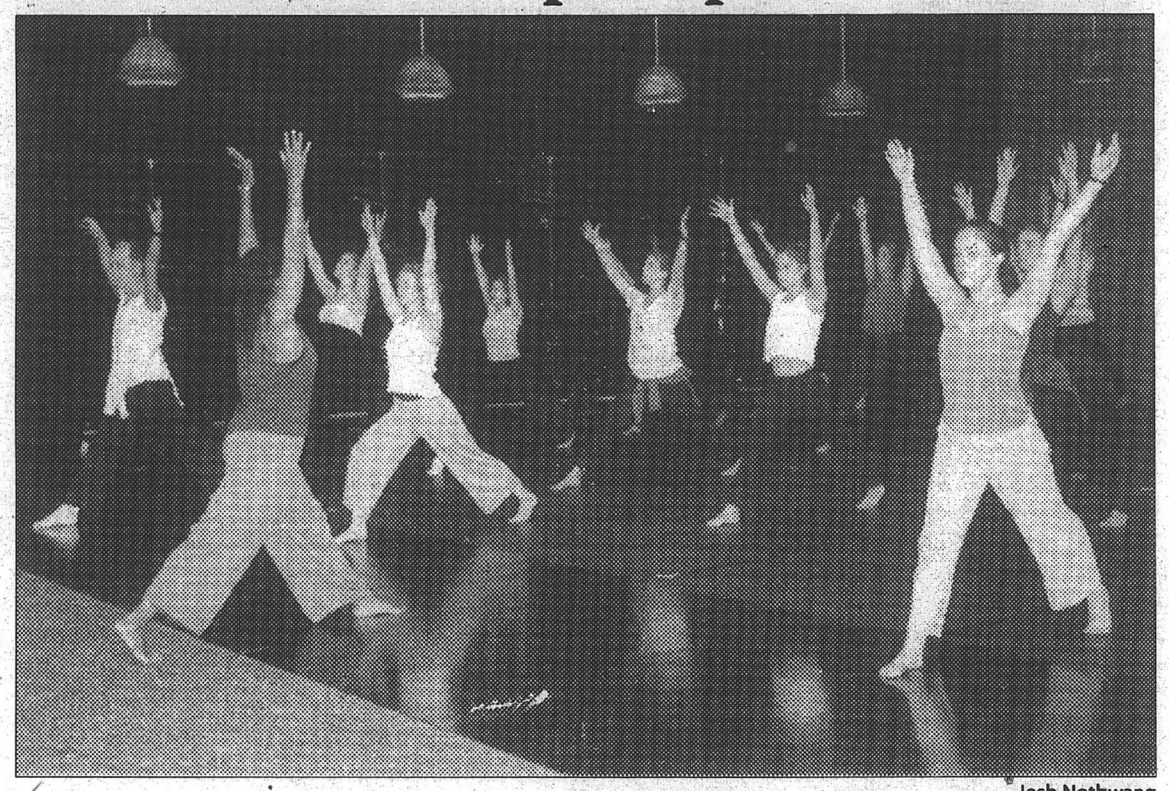
The Bebe Miller Company concert was sold out and the line for the hopeless waiting list meandered out from the box office window to fill the Arts Center lobby. There was something behind those glass doors and black curtains that lured the crowd, that they knew they needed but did not have.

Any regular audience member of Middlebury dance concerts can attest that, on the whole, there is a mournful quality to dance at Middlebury. There is playfulness; there is joy; but there is always a sense of something lost. Modern dance, as a style, also often presents itself as a mystery in the tradition of a ritual mystery which only the initiated can comprehend. Enter Bebe Miller.

The set consisted mainly of a layer of lights hanging just inside the curtains surrounding the stage. The lamps were large, utilitarian, urban things. They were absolutely determined to be ugly. As they began to glow with a cold light, a woman was revealed, sitting aimlessly in a chair. The large, empty stage and the ugly lamps made the space feel lonely, intimidating. The woman, however, was neither of these things. She shifted in her chair, sighed, cleared her throat, looked around, and shifted again. As the lights came on fully, she stood and approached the audience. "Now," she said, "you know who I am." While the rest of the company gathered from the wings, she continued to address the audience, "How many are trying to figure out who are the gay dancers?" Her interrogation continued, pointed, direct, and simple. Although the voice switched to a recorded one and Bebe Miller left the stage, she still seemed to be there, asking the audience to watch itself watching the dancers.

Throughout the first piece of the evening, "Going to the Wall," the voice returned periodically. Its words seemed to come like a stream-of-consciousness and the subjects seemed to be pulled at random. Anyone who hoped the words would provide explanations the movement did not would have only become increasingly confused. Like a sphinx, Miller continued to pose riddles to the audience through both her choreography and her omnipresent voice. However, the approach here seemed, like a riddle, to be a game to which she has invited to the audience. The message was that these puzzles were for everyone to think through, not only for an exclusive, sophisticated elite.

The piece itself was violent, affectionate and passionate. It was "West Side Story" with all its nerves exposed. The piece explored how relationships work among young men, among young women, and between them both. The rap music by Nonchalant and The Fugees suggested an urban existence. But there were no fly-girls here. At one point, the women, moving in rhythm to the hard rap beat, though in a fluid, balletic style, made the song's lyrics pop out of the piece's fabric. The seemingly contradicting styles of movement and music took the up beat out of the music and underscored the frustrated searching for identity.



Josh Nothwang

The Bebe Miller Company performed in the Dance Theatre earlier this week and also taught several dance classes.

The most affecting image of this piece was what could only be called a rape scene. A group of three men stood with their backs to the audience, talking together. A woman walked up to them. The center man supported himself on his friend's shoulders as his legs flashed out to encircle the woman's hips as he thrust his pelvis against hers. She screamed and fled. The men went back to talking. This exact sequence was repeated over and over until the woman no longer screamed, but simply went through the motions. It is usual for a dance piece to explore sex as it applies to the relationships between men and women. It is rare for anyone to explore how sex with a woman lets a man relate to another man. This relationship among the men was clearly communicated by the simple fact that the man in this segment supported himself on other men as he approached a woman

(see "Blessed," page 15)

Middlebury theater alumni return in "Carcass"

By Meg Taintor
Staff Writer

A lamp is swinging on a long rope, back and forth, back and forth. Below it sits a large, rotund man with his eyes eagerly fastened on the moving metal and counting aloud the number of swings, much to the annoyance of his Bible-reading companion (a slim woman disguised as chaplain). The two quarrel, subside and are soon joined by the third member of their party—who happens to be carrying a corpse. Or rather, a large unevenly stuffed dummy with a foam block head and a piece of silver-painted rubber (i.e. an ice pick) stuck into it.

Meet the three remaining live members (and Bosun Smythe) of "The Voyage of the Carcass," a failed polar expedition at the turn of the century and a work in progress by Middlebury theater alumni Andra Harbold '94, Blake Montgomery '93.5, and Dan O'Brien '96. "Voyage" was presented in the Center for the Arts' Studio Theater Friday and Saturday.

The alumni's own voyage into the play began on Aug. 2, when they piled onto campus, into the studio theater, and started to play. They had the vague idea that they wanted to create a theater piece about a failed polar expedition and its three remaining members, but they had no existing script, few available funds and little time. For two and a half weeks they worked and played and printed out two new versions of their script each day.

On Aug. 19, the three disbanded to memorize lines, revise the script and rejoin one month later. That was last Thursday, Sept. 24. On Friday, they performed their play "Voyage of The Carcass" for the first time.

Prefaced with the disclaimer that this was to be considered "an open dress rehearsal," the play explored the relationships of three survivors of The Carcass—a ship that had tried to sail all the way to the North Pole—in their seventh year of waiting.

Part of the success of the play is the humor which the three imbued in it. Because O'Brien is an apt playwright (as well as an actor and a director) and Montgomery is an equally adept actor, the humor came both from the words and from the physicality of the piece. Through both Montgomery's clowning and O'Brien's witty text, the actors found a way to make a potentially depressing and heavy-handed piece into enjoyable entertainment.

Part of the success of the play is the humor which [Harbold, Montgomery, and O'Brien] imbued in it.

At times, however, the two elements did not work together as well as one would have hoped. There was a series of long, drawn out stage combat sequences between Montgomery and Harbold which, because of their comic nature, undermined the seriousness of the text.

However, because the two evening performances were of a work in progress, the audience was invited to stay after the show for an informal Q&A session in which the actors posed questions to the audience and vice versa.

It was in these discussions that the truest value of the weekend's performances came through—a view of theater in its most immediate form as a malleable, shifting art.

It was particularly enlightening to be present for both performances and to watch the way that the actors tried to incorporate into the second performance the feedback they had received the night before.

Because the first audience had expressed confusion over Harbold's role (Was she really a woman disguised as a man, or was she "in typical Middlebury cross-casting style", really a man?), the second performance was prefaced by the outright declaration: "This is Andra and she will be playing a woman disguised as a man...but she really is a woman." What was interesting in this case was that members of the second audience felt that the clarification was unnecessary and that, indeed, it detracted from the performance.

In any case, it is one choice among many that the company will have to make clearly as they bring this play to its maturity.

Rudolph's ensemble mystifies Flynn

By Otie Hart
Arts Editor

Adam Rudolph's "Moving Pictures" ensemble of world musicians performed at the Flynn Theater in Burlington last Sunday, blowing away the small crowd with their improvisational style and mystical stage presence.

Rudolph, along with Hamid Drake on drums, Ralph Jones on wind instruments and the Japanese Butoh dancer Oguri, are "engaged in the art of improvisation, in the development of the body, mind and spirit," Rudolph said at the end of his performance. The ensemble has performed all over the globe with the likes of Don Cherry, Yusef Lateef, L. Shankar, Jon Hassel, Pharoah Sanders and Hassan Hakmoun. While the Moving Pictures musicians have a strong background in jazz, Rudolph chooses not to label his music as such. "I choose not to use the word "jazz" in describing my music [because] stylistic expectations burden the use [of the word]," Rudolph said.

The ensemble's performance at the Flynn certainly could not be labeled as jazz, or any other pre-conceived form of music. The three musicians improvised around and among each other for 75 minutes, while Oguri danced around the stage, some times as if in a trance.

Nancy Jackson

Adam Rudolph's "Moving Pictures" engage in the art of musical improvisation.

Rudolph performed on many hand instruments: the congas, tabla and talking drum, as well as the finger piano. When he was not playing an instrument with his hands, he was doing so with his mouth, either playing a harmonica-esque instrument, singing or just making rhythmic noise. Drake performed on the drum kit during the beginning and ending sequences. During his performance on different hand percussion, he occasionally sang, or chanted, in an African language. Drake's voice is beautiful and the segments of the concert when he sang where some of the most entrancing moments of the evening.

Jones, who is an established musician in his own right, stood on the left side of the stage for the entire show, playing instruments

(see "Moving Pictures" page 17)

Quenn performs cuts from new CD

By Jeff Price
Staff Writer

Friday night, two women played music in The Gamut Room for what was deemed a "sooo quiet" but appreciative audience. Katherine Quenn, a guest musician from Burlington, faced the crowd with a shaved head and a tattooed bracelet near her wrist. She sang and smiled and laughed but did not get along well with her guitar, which rejected her tuning attempts. Near the end of her performance, Katherine started a song, then moaned to a halt, her exasperation stemming from a refusal to accept the instrument's discordant melodies any longer. She stood on stage, smiling with her lips closed and her eyes down, concentrating on making the instrument behave as the small, quiet crowd patiently waited. After a period of several minutes, she looked up, laughed and started into the song again. "There, that's better," she grinned and her eyes widened to emphasize her sarcasm. The guitar was still not behaving.

But the sound was not bad. Quenn's voice and words are the strength of her music. Like many musicians, she sings songs about being upset with the condition of the world. She is upset that there are too few people who want to change the way things are. She was upset when a dear childhood friend, sacrificing her last name for marriage, sent a wedding invitation on which Quenn's own name was misspelled. She was upset when she met one of her favorite musicians only to immediately see through the cloud of her own admiration at what a real "ass-" the artist was. She also sang songs that were not about disillusion. One song was about a night she bathed, broken down completely in exhaustion, an unadorned refrain addressed to a boyfriend, asking him to lift her bones from the water. That song was about disillusion of a different kind. Her lyrics were honest, the emotions immediate. The crowd lay back and listened with calm eyes. On occasion, Quenn replied to statements from the members of the audience most familiar with her material. Near closing, she took a request and played her "bar song." She is also upset with drunk, desperate men speaking to her when she goes to bars. After all, "she brings her own money, to buy her own beer" (this line from her song earned guffaws and applause).

Courtney Brocks '01, who opened for Quenn, sings like she wants the audience to know that her voice is not her fault. Her voice is beautiful to hear. Brocks was accompanied by Keith Watts '01 on drums. She sang softly and clearly of reminiscences; her music has no anger, only a soothing touch of sadness. She plays guitar while she sings but the guitar rifts did not vary widely and one listens only to her voice, paced by the rocking beat of the drums. She sang one duet with Kirsten Rohstedt '01 (a Tori Amos cover) and she played her encore alone with her guitar. Surprisingly or not, the Gamut Room was more full for Brocks and Watts than for Quenn, but quiet for both musicians.

Views from the Frontier

Josh Nothwang

Professor Kirsten Powell *spoke last Thursday about her first-year seminar and its relation to the museum's new "Yosemite Views" exhibit.*

New Music

September 30

Leah Androne "Alchemy"	Sheryl Crow "The Globe Sessions"	Mercury Rev "Deserter's Song"
Tony Bennett "The Playground"	Faithless "Sunday 8 PM"	Joni Mitchell "Taming the Tiger"
Brand Nubian "Foundation"	The Galaxie 500 "The Portable Galaxie 500"	The Nields "Play"
The Broadway Kids "Back on Broadway"	PJ Harvey "Is This Desire?"	Outkast "Aquemini"
Elvis Costello/ Burt Bacharach "Painted From Memory"	Jay-Z "Vol. 2 Hard Knock Life"	A Tribe Called Quest "The Love Moment"
Soul Coughing "El Oso"	lisahall "Is This Real?"	UNKLE "Psyence Fiction"

"Blessed" offers joyous reminder of human spirit

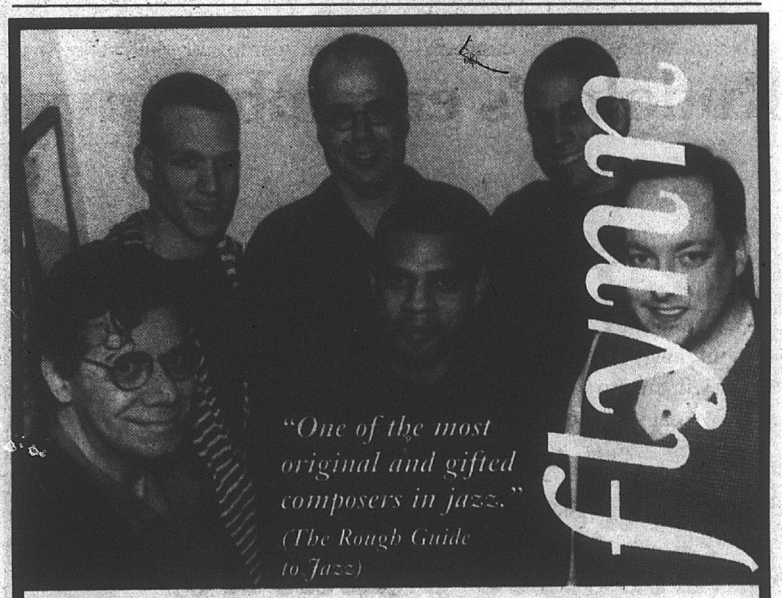
Continued from page 14

sexually.

The second piece was pure joy. Titled "Blessed," and set against the uplifting music of the gospel choir The Café of the Gate of Salvation, this piece left all angst behind. While the affection between dancers in the previous piece was a strangling affection, in this piece, the dancers took joy in one another and in dance itself. There were moments of struggle, of suffering, but in every case, there was someone there to lift up the sufferer, to hold his or her hand and impart strength.

The lighting in this piece added as much as the music. Gone were the heavy lamps. Instead there was a bare stage flooded in the gold tones of a deep afternoon sun. The dancers themselves now wore lush, warm colored velvet instead of the slightly tattered clothes they wore in the previous piece.

The greatest joy of "Blessed," however, was the smile. Natural and spontaneous smiles spread across the dancer's faces. While "Going to the Wall" confronted the audience with issues of identity, "Blessed" was sweet, clear water on a hot day.



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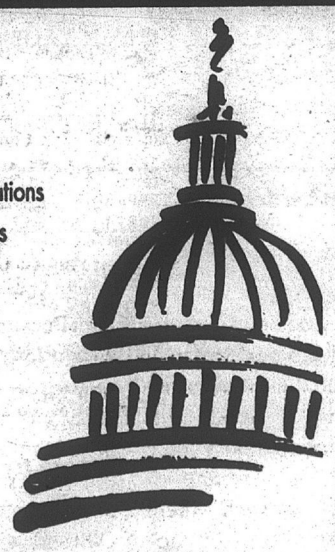

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Middlebury Chamber Soloists classically dazzle small crowd

By Lena Khor
Staff Writer

Concerts always inspire a keen sense of anticipation. With a Sunday afternoon concert of classical music however, the question that plays in the back of the mind is not the quality of the music but the quantity of the audience. By some mischance of classical conditioning, a Sunday afternoon just does not inspire classical music lovers to throng to the Concert Hall as a Saturday night does. Although the scarce audience was expected, it was still with a sense of disappointment that I found this Sunday's performance by the Middlebury Chamber Soloists to fit so perfectly into this category of the Sunday afternoon classical music struggle.

Although such a term as "Sunday afternoon classical music struggle" seems self-explanatory, allow me to elaborate on the particulars of this term. In what can only be shameful generalization, I venture to propose that the musicians struggle to entertain their audience of, say, 15 with the same level of enthusiasm as they would have for the ideal full house. Regardless of how dedicated and able a musician is, one cannot but understand that the energy in a concert is as much generated from the audience as it is from the musician. This dearth of energy inevitably affects the mood of the performer and consequently influences his performance.

Having said that, one cannot but admire and be thankful for the vitality and color that Carol Christensen, soprano, brought to her own performance and to the entire concert. Her presence brought zest and spirit to the otherwise somber and serious affair. Christensen sang "Three Songs" by Franz Schubert. She was accompanied effortlessly by Cynthia Huard on the piano. Later, Christensen also performed "Three Vocalises" by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Although voice and piano had previously made a charming combination, here voice and clarinet met in good harmony — Jerry McBride with his clarinet and Christensen with her vibrant voice.

Following Christensen's performance, McBride also performed a duet with Huard on the piano. They executed Johannes Brahms' Sonata in F minor op.120, no.1 very competently. Earlier, the program had begun with Alan Parshley on the horn and Greg Vitercik on the piano in a piece by Edvard Grieg entitled "Varen." Both Parshley and Vitercik later came back to perform Trio in B-flat, op.274 by Carl Reinecke with McBride and his clarinet. I have always been impressed with Vitercik's simple ease, quiet understanding and enthusiasm for his instrument and music and this Sunday's performance proved only to reaffirm this feeling. Parshley and McBride both seem equally deft at their instrument and one cannot but congratulate them on a polished effort. If one is to be picky about things (something very hard to do on a lazy Sunday afternoon), one might suggest that the clarinet seemed a little overpowered by the piano in Reinecke's Trio in B-flat. But perhaps it is only natural for the sonorous sounds of the horn coupled with the intricate maneuvers of the piano to drown out even the most plaintive tune of the clarinet.

Finally, I would also like to pro-

(see "Classical," page 17)

Irish Extra Stout served at The Grille

By Regina Windsor
Staff Writer

If you happened to venture to The Grille Saturday night, you would have been met with some old-fashioned, Guinness-drinking, knee-slapping, finger-snapping, foot-tapping Irish melodies. Extra Stout, comprised of seven members, had a casual and lively quality that had the audience dancing by the end of the night.

It was Extra Stout's first gig at Middlebury and they were impressed with the looks of the Grille. "Basically, we are willing to play anywhere, except in swimming pools," admitted Pat Max, the band's leader.

The band played a well-rounded mix of rebel tunes, jigs, reels, slow airs, and ballads. "If it's one thing I hate, it's going to see an Irish band and then listening to them play the same thing over and over again," Max said.

Max played a little of everything. His mother was from Belfast and as he stated, "I was always around Irish music." Thus began his musical odyssey. The band started about 10 years ago. Made up of several faculty members of Castleton State College, the band is not "a true Irish band," Max stated. "There are actually more Jews than Irishmen in the band so far. We are a mixed bag."

This bag includes piper David Fogle, a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, who told an interesting story of how he got into playing his instrument of choice. "I was at a freshman activities fair and couldn't decide which clubs to join. At that point I didn't know about the bagpipe band, [or Carnegie Mellon's Scottish founders. Suddenly as I was wandering aimlessly through the booths, there was this incredibly loud noise. It was a bagpipe and it really scared me. And so I decided to sign up." Fogle ended up getting a free pipe to play.

There were vocalist Hellen

(see "Irish," page 17)

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Irish music outfit uses variety of drinking songs to excite crowd

Continued from page 16

Mango, guitarists Paul Cohen and Marcus Leby, fiddler Mary Barron, who joined the band a mere year and a half ago, and whistler Sandy Buling.

Variety was key to the band's success through the night. The songs ranged from peaceful and smooth to fast-paced and frenzied. Many of the songs began with a strong drum beat, and as the song developed, each instrument created a new layer for the piece. The players were in-sync as they tapped their toes to the beat. It was interesting to learn how a song completely evolved into a different genre with the addition of a flute or fiddle.

They gradually picked up their pace as the night wore on with songs like "Fair Maid," which was about a girl who joins the Navy and "does better than the boys," a favorite of Buling. Then there was the ever popular "Finnegan's Wake," a rather humorous song about an Irish resurrection. As a flask of whiskey falls and breaks onto Finnegan's grave, he jumps out and proclaims, "What? You thought I was actually dead!?"

"If you listen closely to the words, you will find that many of the Irish lyrics are very witty," Buling pointed out.

As the band prepared for the next tune, Max stated firmly, "There are no love tunes in Irish music. But this next song is as close as it gets." It turned out to be a beautiful ballad when everyone in the band joined in to sing.

The next songs were reels, rather rebellious tunes. The popular song "Red is the Rose" was played and sung with such feeling by Mango, that I thought it was unfair that only a small audience got to hear the song. "Only the women in the room are allowed to sing the chorus," stated Max at the beginning of the song. The vocals carried you back to a different place and time.

Included in the second set was a beautiful all-flute and whistle song. Also played was the charming "Nell Flaherty's Drake." It told the story of Robert Emmett, one of the great Irish rebels of the early 1800s who lead a small uprising in Dublin.

Emmet's famous "speech from the dock," in which he requested that no epitaph for him be written until Ireland took her place among the nations of the earth, assured him of a place in the hearts of all Irish nationalists. Code-named "Drake," the valiant warrior was killed in one of the battles of occupation. His name-sake song tells the story through a woman who laments the murder of her Drake, while railing curses at his murderer. "May every old fairy from Cork to Dunleary dip him smug and airy in river or lake, that the eel and the trout, they may dine on the snout of the monster that killed Nell Flaherty's Drake." Such a subtle song.

Overall, it turned out to be a lively and well-rounded Irish music experience, leaving the Grille with a good vibe and the audience with a skip in their walk home through the damp night.

"Moving Pictures" moves Flynn Theatre audience

Continued from page 14

ranging from the tenor saxophone to what looked like an Indian flute. Jones began the performance with the words "Compassion is power," an intense opening that left many audience members wondering what they were in for.

Oguri's dancing received the largest response of the evening, as the skinny Japanese farmer twisted and spun his way around the three musicians, sometimes in a trance-like sway, other times in strange fits of passion.

The contortion of his face, which took on the entire spectrum of emotion during the performance, sparked many people in the audience to snicker. His expressions did sometimes border on the comical, but the audience was in the same rhythmic, hypnotic state, and few people dared laugh.

It is hard to describe the actual music that Rudolph's ensemble created, for it has no distinct name. Rudolph would play the hand drums, while Drake would whisk brush sticks back and forth before a microphone. Try to imagine a butterfly fluttering just next to your ear. Jones, playing the flute, occasionally blew lightly over the mouthpiece, creating a wispy, ethereal call that wove well with the rest of the ensemble. Of course, this was only during the performance's quietest moments.

Moving Pictures moved all over the map. One could sense Indian music, African trance, traces of jazz, all ranging in mood and volume.

Jones might squeak the saxophone as loud as possible one moment, then stop, switch to an Asian recorder and play a beautiful melody. The entire atmospheric mood of the ensemble seemed to modulate with Jones' dynamics.

Moving Pictures' effect on the audience cannot truly be described in a newspaper article, or in any form of decipherable language. One has to be there, listening to the ineffable sound spiraling up and down the wall of the Flynn and watching the mesmerizing motions of Oguri as he circled the stage. The visual dance was absolutely essential, transfixing the audience on one moving musical current, as if the mystical sound on stage were consumed and then spit out by Oguri's movements.

The audience was visibly affected after the performance ended. Rudolph made a small speech afterwards for anyone who needed an explanation of the evening's performance, but few did. The most common expression on spectators leaving the theater was an exhausted smile. Some were breathing hard, some seemed to feel like screaming into the lightening storm overhead. It was as mystical a performance Vermonters may witness all year.

Classical music needs support from students

Continued from page 16

pose that the "Sunday afternoon classical music struggle" is not an ailment particular to the musicians. It affects the audience as well. The audience, what handful there is, struggle to perform the role of the audience.

They struggle bravely but their efforts are in vain. It is not for a scattered group of 15 to generate the enthusiasm, energy, attention and applause expected from an entire concert hall. This is especially frustrating when such attention and applause is appropriately due, as it was this Sunday, to the performers for their efforts and their talents.

In other words, support from the classical music enthusiast community (and I know there is one on campus because it is constantly in the practice rooms when I am desperate for one myself) would add greatly to the energy of the Sunday afternoon performances.

Though these concerts are often not in the illustrious position of being performed on a Saturday night, they are nevertheless worth attending.

Indeed, if the Middlebury Chamber Soloists performance this Sunday were to be ascertained most crudely by how well they survived the "Sunday afternoon classical music struggle," one would have to say they marched through the struggle steadily and competently. And they deserve all the support and appreciation we as an audience can give.

Arts Smarts

Movies

Friday, October 2

4:00 p.m.
"Sharing the Dream." For two years Brian Lander photographed black women whose achievements he believes changed America. More than 50 of his best portraits are featured in this video, which shows him at work creating them.
Arts Center Lower Lobby

7:00 and 9:30 p.m.
"The Game." Nicholas Van Orton is a shrewdly successful businessman whose life undergoes a profound change when his brother gives him a birthday gift that has devastating consequences. Admission $1.
Dana Auditorium

Saturday, October 3

3:00 and 8:00 p.m.
"The Sweet Hereafter." A commuity is faced with collective tragedy-- the death of fourteen children in a school bus accident. This movie examines the nature of loss and healing as it follows a big city lawyer who arrives in the small town to win compensation for the survivors.
Dana Auditorium

Performances

Wednesday, September 30

9:00 p.m.
The Jazz Guitar of Chris Farrell.
The Grille

Thursday, October 1

9:00 p.m.
Performance: Christy Blum.
The Grille

Friday, October 2

4:30 p.m.
Informal Dance Showing & Discussion by Marta Renzi. An informal showing and discussion of the most recent collaboration between American dancer Marta Renzi and her slavic colleague, Anna Sedlackova, and their joint ensemble of dancers.
Arts Center Dance Theatre

8:00 p.m
"In the Spirit." Lia Kahler, mezzo-soprano and Emory Fanning, pianist will present a varied vocal concert, featuring songs, spirituals and arias with text from the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faith traditions.
Mead Chapel

10:00 p.m.
Guitar performance: Quinn Raymond.
The Grille

10:00 p.m.
First Friday Cultural Coffee House: Bobolinks, Mountain Ayres and Friends. Cabaret-style entertainment with gourmet coffees and teas.
Arts Center Lower Lobby

Saturday, October 3

9:30 p.m.
A Capella Jamboree. Performances by the Bobolinks, Dissipated Eight, MamaJamas and Mischords.
Mead Chapel

10:00 p.m.
Jesse Holland's Trio: the music of Dave Koltai and Pete Day.
The Grille

Sunday, October 4

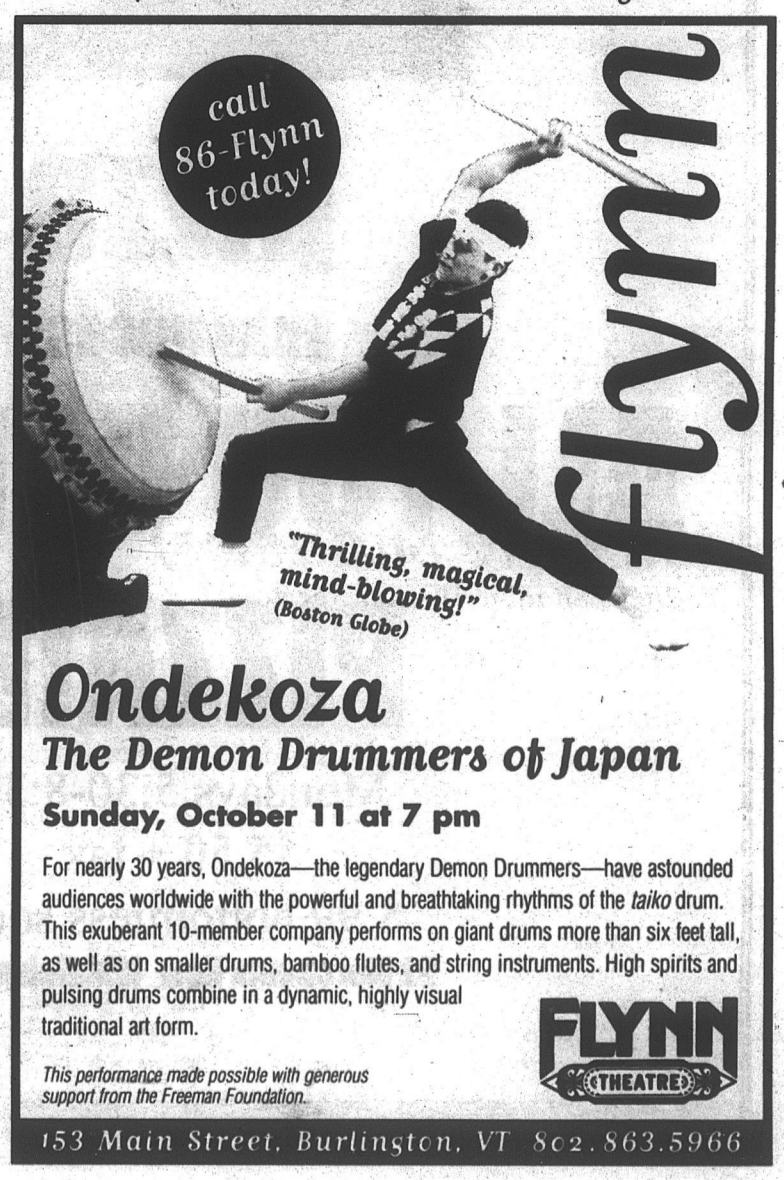
4:00 p.m.
Davydov-Fanning Duo. Dieuwke Davydov, 'cello and Diana Fanning, piano. Composers are Couperin, Chopin, Debussy, Fauré, Saint-Saëns, Frand. Special feature: Three Noctures written for the Davydov-Fanning Duo by Jorge Martin.
Arts Center Concert Hall

9:00 p.m.
Performance: Jerry Hunt.
The Grille

Lectures

Saturday, October 3

2:00 p.m.
Student Gallery Talks. Mammoth-Plate Photographs by Carleton E. Watkins (1825-1916) from the Park-McCullough House.
Museum of Art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This performance made possible with generous support from the Freeman Foundation.
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Middlebury sailing moves up through the pack in latest regatta

By Peter Huoppi
Staff Writer

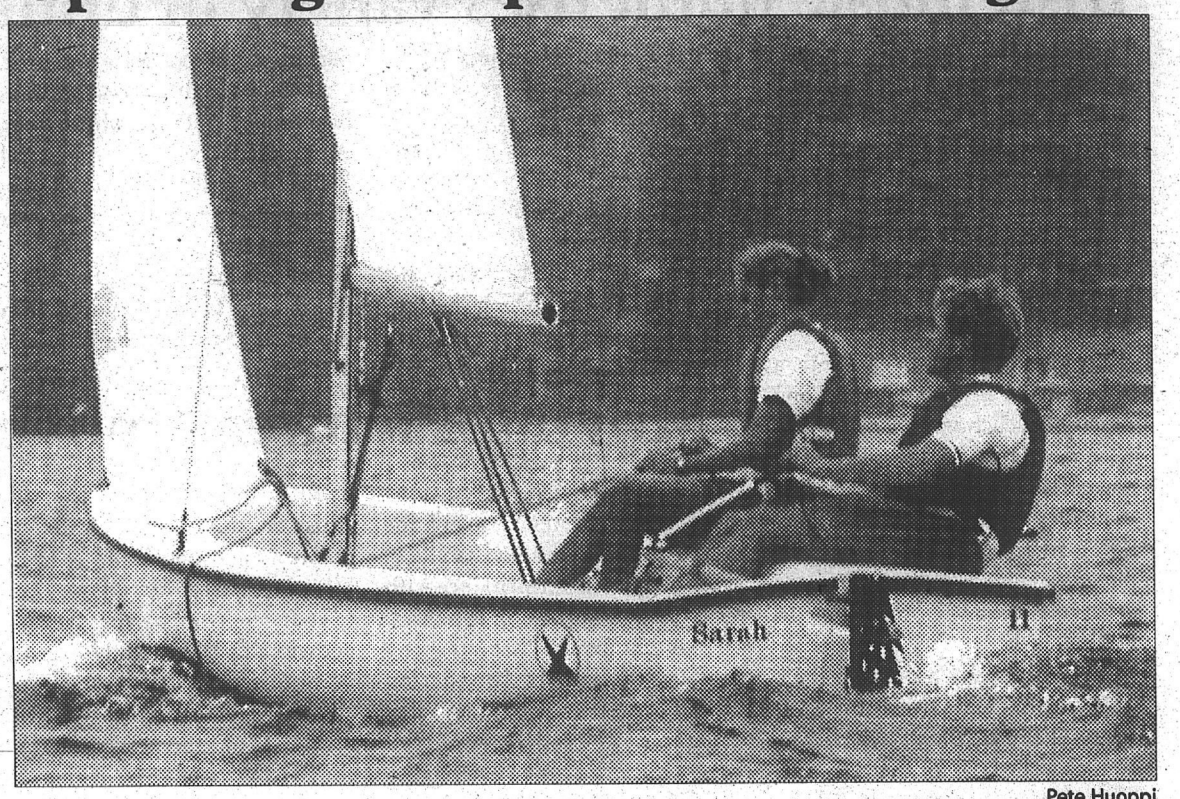
The Varsity/Frosh Regatta at Dartmouth is perennially one of the premier showcases of freshman talent in the New England Inter-collegiate Sailing Association. This year's regatta proved to be no exception, as two of the nation's top four recruits led Tufts and Dartmouth to the top two finishes. Middlebury surprised everyone in attendance by tying for seventh out the thirteen teams. This was an improvement from tenth out of twelve at last year's event.

This marked improvement was mostly due to the performance in the freshman division by skipper Ted Noon '01.5 and his crew Hillary Munson '02. Slightly less successful, in the varsity division were Chris Morgan '00 and Pete Huoppi '00.

The team's success came on the heels of two disappointing cancellations within the past week due to a lack of wind. As the teams arrived at Lake Mascoma, it looked like the weather was going to be a repeat performance of Saturday's dead calm. Trying to keep spirits up, Noon donned a cap reminiscent of the captain of the Love Boat and assumed the role of entertainer. As if in reaction to one too many bad jokes, the wind immediately filled in over the once-flat lake.

Morgan and Huoppi's joy at seeing the breeze pick up was immediately turned to frustration as repeated shifts and gusts baffled the two veterans, leaving them among the last to cross the finish line. Noon and Munson had considerably fewer problems, reading the shifts, and finishing consistently in the top six. Realizing that their boat was too heavy for the light breeze, Morgan secretly wished that they could somehow shave off some pounds.

When the lunch break rolled around, the teams were greeted by the sight of an enormous school-funded feast. Sadly, they were left heartbroken when they realized that the food was exclusively meant for those privileged enough to be enrolled at Dartmouth. Ever the problem solver, Noon volunteered the Middlebury team to fund a barbecue for the other twelve teams in attendance. Having no cash, Noon deferred the duties of grocery shopping to an enthusiastic Morgan and Huoppi. At the market, the two received a lesson in the ways of the world from a resident of the worldly town of Enfield, NH. Huoppi asked Morgan to look for pre-made beef patties, to which a complete stranger replied, "This is the real world, you have to make the burgers yourself. If you want quick go to McDonalds." The two returned to a hungry group of sailors who immediately devoured their bountiful, fried harvest.



Pete Huoppi

Middlebury's sailing team slices through the water at the Varsity/Frosh Regatta hosted by Dartmouth last weekend.

Over the break, the wind increased in velocity, and the Middlebury team responded with its best finishes of the day. Noon and Munson led the entire fleet at one point, ending up in third after some questionable tactics on the downwind leg. Noon's tactics were not the only thing questionable about his performance. Anyone within earshot became aware of the "sailor's mouth" which life on the seas had bestowed upon him.

The heavy air led to an even stronger improvement by Morgan and Huoppi. Their weight now became an advantage, giving them more control over the heel of their boat as many lighter teams were overpowered. Two brilliant starts left them in fourth place around the windward mark in both of the final races, and eventually leaving them with seventh and sixth place finishes. This brought the overall score to a tie with Boston University, whom they had been trailing all day. The seventh place finish overall left Middlebury only four points behind Bowdoin, and far ahead of traditionally stronger teams such as Yale and Brown. Next weekend the team hopes to continue the upward trend at Brandeis and Bowdoin.

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Cross country runners head to Colby for meet

(continued from page 19)

year," continued Enman. "The men are just going to get better and better as the season rolls on."

The always ebullient Coddington noted that the team has been getting stronger as the season has progressed. "It's really early in the season and we're still in the strength phase of our training. We're not expected to be that fast at this point, but we've laid the pacework and it's time to kick it into high gear. In truth, we're happy to be here."

"The time gap from first to fifth on the team has been getting smaller," added Barr. "I think everyone's getting more consistent."

Following the men's race, the Panther women toed the line to take on Bowdoin (ranked eighth in New England), Colby (ranked 6th) and Bates. Middlebury made a mockery of the competition as they blitzed the Maine schools by a final tally of Middlebury 20, Bowdoin 46, Colby 63, and Bates 120. Said Enman of the Panther's victory, "you could just tell that the other teams were scared of us."

Capturing the first three overall places were Jessica Johnston '02 (winning with a time of 19:27), Kasie Wallace '01 and senior co-captain Jess Blake. All-American 800 and 1500 meter runner Kate Irvin '01 finished fifth, first-year Susan Ludwick finished ninth and senior co-captain Angenine McCleary completed the five-kilometer course tenth overall.

"It was good to compete against some NESCAC schools this week," noted Blake. "A group of Bowdoin runners put a lot of pressure on us and forced us to work hard, but we responded well as a team."

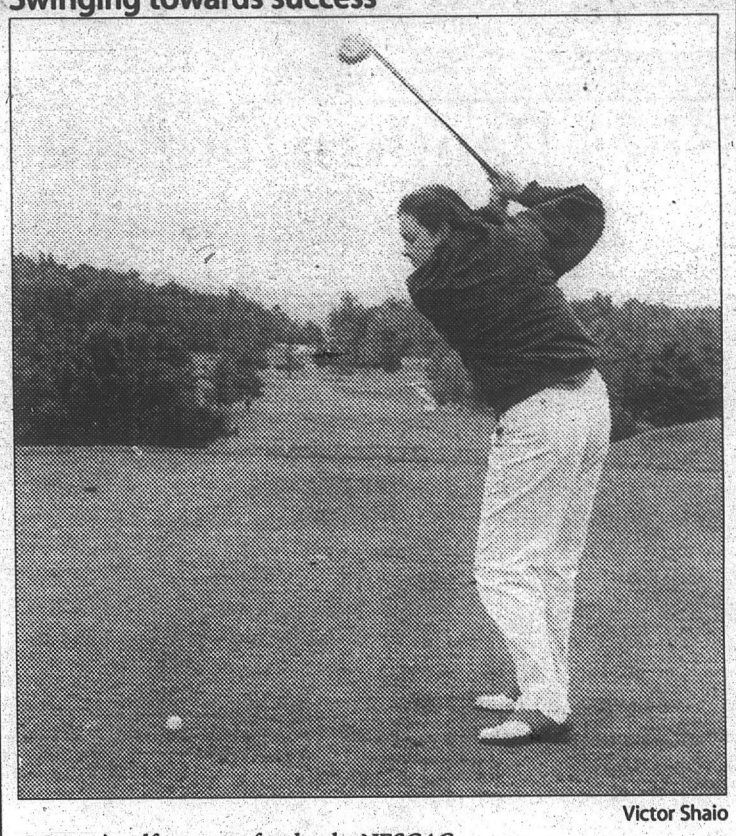
Both teams returned home to the friendly confines of the Green Mountain State with one thought in mind: the defense of their state titles this coming Friday against the likes of Norwich University, St. Michael's College, and Johnson State.

We fully expect to win. If we don't there's going to be [trouble].
—Bill Coddington '99

"We fully expect to win," remarked Coddington. "If we don't, there's going to be [trouble]."

The meet — hosted by St. Michael's — will be held at the Catamount Center in Williston. The women's race begins at 3:00 p.m., while the men will look to make good on Coddington's bold prediction at 3:45 p.m.

Swinging towards success



Victor Shaio

Women's golf gears up for the the NESCACs.

Women's soccer suffers two defeats

By Stacey Gorski
Staff Writer

After getting off to a 2-0 start, the women's soccer team dropped two games this week, evening their record to 2-2. While the match-ups against Skidmore and Bowdoin were predicted to be tougher than the blow-out victories last week against Colby-Sawyer and Bates, no one expected that the women would go 0-2 this week.

Still, the team isn't panicking yet. Last year, the women lost the same two games and still managed to gain an NCAA bid. With some refocusing and more solid efforts against Keene State and Wesleyan this week, the women hope to be back on track.

By no means were this weeks' games all low lights. Against Skidmore, the Panthers were forced to play on turf — a surface they had not encountered since the season ending loss to William Smith in the NCAA tournament of last year.

We need to put this behind us, learn and move on. There is way too much soccer left to be played. Things will change.
—Amity Wall '99

Unfortunately, Middlebury made a slow adjustment to the fast surface. They found that the balls which could usually make it past the defense on grass were either winding up in the Skidmore keeper's hands, or running out of bounds. The loss, however, can not be blamed solely on turf inexperience, as Skidmore's mid-field played an excellent match. For the Panthers, keepers Alison Connolly '02 and Johannah Nikula '99 were impressive in goal, stopping several breakaways each.

The Panthers returned home to their grassy pitch on Saturday, determined to get back on the winning side against a red hot Bowdoin team. The first two goals of the game belonged to Bowdoin, as Bridget Foley and Alison Lavoie, each broke away from the Middlebury defense. But, typical of Middlebury women's soccer, the game was far from over.

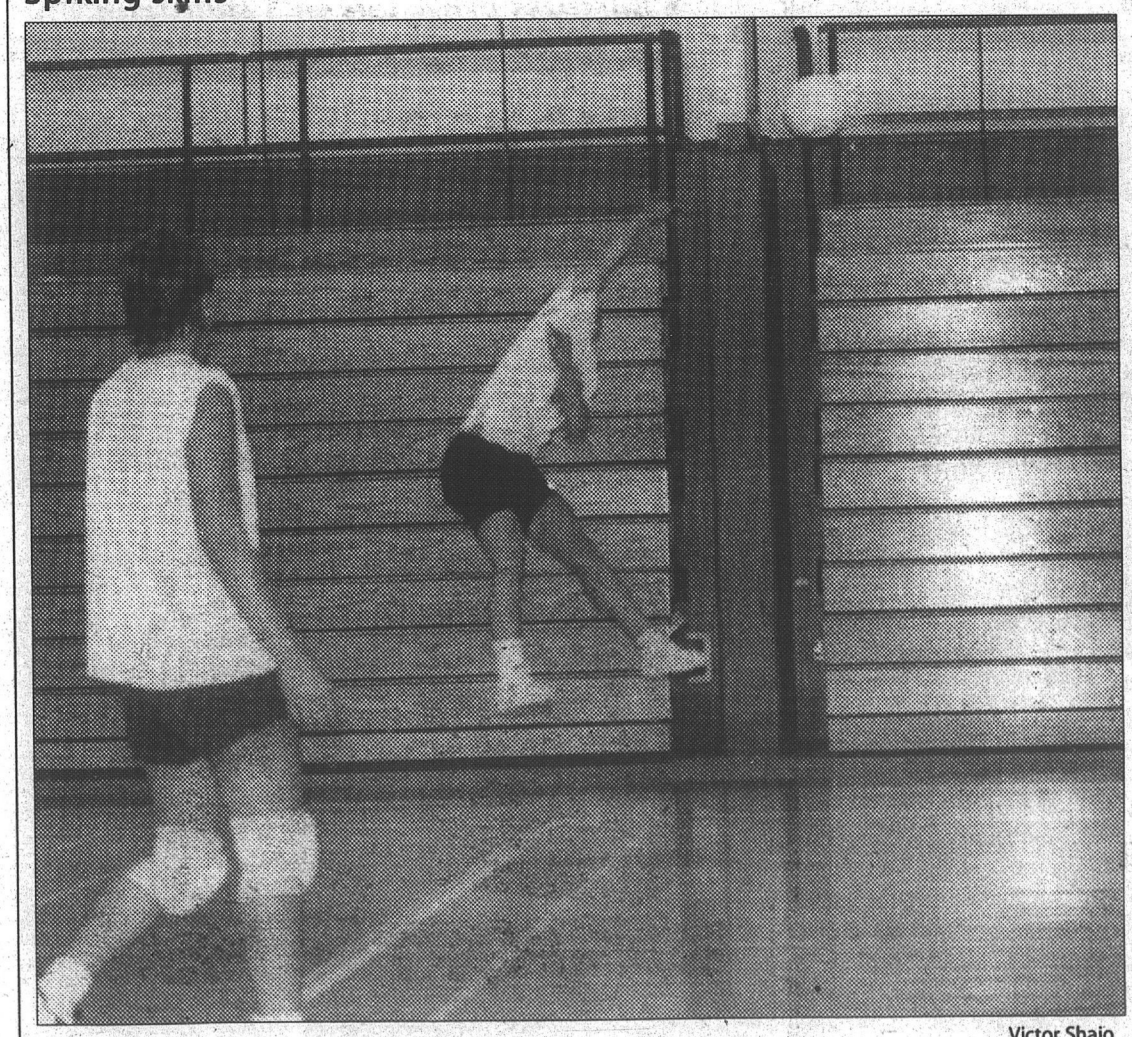
Kirstin Gerety '99 gave Middlebury new life with a strike from 30 yards out that slipped through the Bowdoin keeper's hands. Six seconds later, Whitney Strohmeyer '02 headed a Gerety corner kick into the net, tying the game. But, Bowdoin scored just 17 seconds later, setting the Polar Bears ahead 3-2.

Four minutes after halftime ended, Bowdoin furthered their lead by another goal, and never relinquished it. Middlebury had a few opportunities to close the gap in the second half; unfortunately, scoring never became a reality.

There is no doubt that the two losses will affect Middlebury's number nine national ranking and its number one ranking in New England, but for now, the team seems indifferent to rankings and remains optimistic.

"We need to put this behind us, learn and move on. There is way too much soccer left to be played. Things will change," co-captain Amity Wall commented after the game. The fact that Middlebury dropped the same two games last year, and then went on a hot streak, winning all but one of its remaining games, should prove hopeful to disheartened fans. The Panthers may have suffered two tough losses, but they won't let this discourage them from turning things around in their upcoming matches against Keene State and Wesleyan.

Spiking skills



Victor Shaio

The women's volleyball team prepares for a powerful season by perfecting their spiking skills.

Armchair QB

By Otie Hart
Arts Editor

There is chaos in the nation's capital, and it's got nothing to do with Monica Lewinsky. No, this week's crisis revolves around two other celebrities, the Washington Redskins' defensive tackles Dana Stubblefield and Dan Wilkinson, as well as the rest of Washington's pathetic defense.

Norv Turner's team is 0-4 after falling to the Denver Broncos Sunday 38-16, Washington's worst start to a season in 17 years. Obviously, the Redskins' woes cannot be pinned on one department. However, if we have to start somewhere, it's the defense, a group General Manager Charley Casserly spent $57 million "improving" in the off-season. Well, the "improved" defense has allowed the most points in the NFL this season, 138 to be exact. That's an average of 35 points a game, or five touchdowns. As an example, only two teams even scored 35 points this week, Denver and Green Bay.

Stubblefield and Wilkinson, the recipients of the $57 million, are two of the reasons the Washington defense has graciously allowed opposing running backs 100-yard games the last three weeks, with Denver's Terrell Davis being the latest lucky winner. When single-manned, the two are getting dominated, almost routinely hitting the ground before the opposition. Davis ran right at Wilkinson all day and had great success.

The defense as a whole has allowed an average of 151 yards on the ground a week, next to last in the NFC, with only the winless Chicago Bears giving up more. As a reference point, undefeated Green Bay and San Francisco have given up only 163 and 199 yards on the ground all year.

Washington's poor defensive ranking can be attributed to the third quarter. So far this season, the Redskins have been outscored 56-10 in the third quarter, usually in the first couple minutes after halftime, as was the case on Sunday when Denver scored a touchdown 1:26 into the third.

Running back Terry Allen, arguably one of the best in the game, has been having incredible first halves, but the ball is being taken out of his hands when the team is down two touchdowns in the second half, in favor of Trent Green's unintimidating passing attack. If the defense was not giving up big plays early in the game, Allen would have many more touches and the Redskins offense would be putting up more points.

Thank goodness for the NFC East. Were Washington in any other division in the NFL, their season would be, for all purposes, over. But, thanks to the ineptitude of Dallas, New York, Philadelphia and Arizona, the Redskins do have a chance at making the playoffs. After the Cowboys and Eagles come to town, the Skins could be 2-4 and leading the division. But looking past anyone is the last thing Washington can afford to do right now, or they may just get stuck in the basement of the worst division in football.

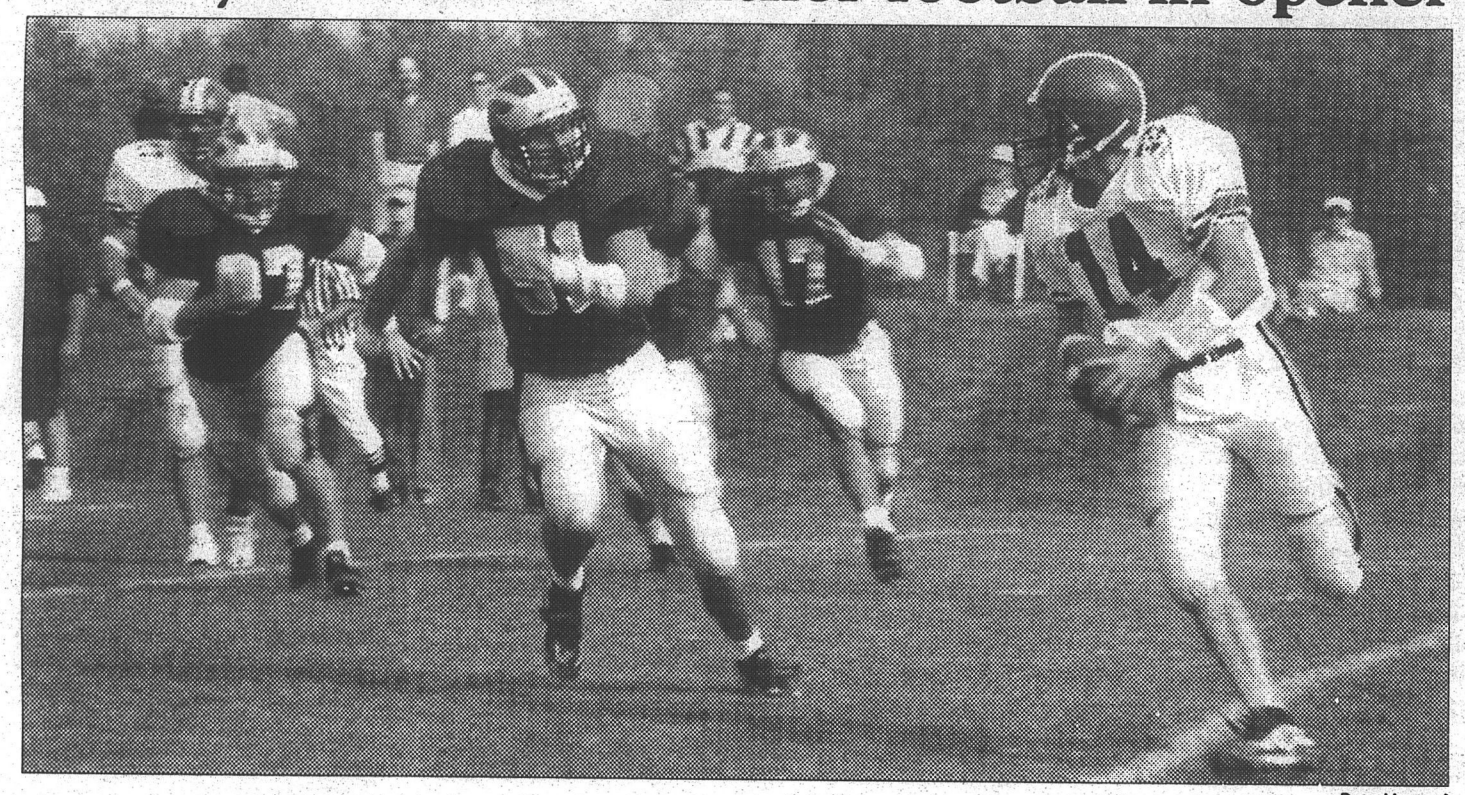
Men's Fall Sports	
Soccer at Wesleyan	Oct. 3 @ 2:00
Football at Colby	Oct. 3 @ 1:30
Tennis at Vassar	Oct. 3 - 4

The Campus Sports

September 30, 1998

Women's Fall Sports	
Soccer at Wesleyan	Oct. 3 @ 11:00
Tennis at Wesleyan	Oct. 3 @ 11:00
Volleyball at Bates	Oct. 3 - 4

Wesleyan crushes Panther football in opener



Pete Huoppi

Despite some bold plays, the Wesleyan Cardinals handed the Middlebury football team a tough defeat in their first game of the season.

Chris Botting
Staff Writer

It has been an emotional last few weeks for the football team, as the Panthers have come off a lopsided loss for the second weekend in a row. Last Saturday the team traveled to New Hampshire to scrimmage the Bowdoin Polar Bears on neutral ground. When the regulation style first half was over, it was evident that Middlebury had some tuning up to do as they were unable to score against the 12 points from a team not renowned for a stellar offense or dominating defense.

After a good week of energized practice, the Panthers were well prepared to open up the regular season against the Wesleyan Cardinals on Youngman field. Alumni Stadium was packed with anxious Middlebury and Wesleyan fans.

Middlebury won the coin toss but deferred to take the ball in the second half. The Cardinals came out firing, but on their fifth play junior safety Mike Baumgardner intercepted the ball on Middlebury's 44 yard line. The Panthers had trouble getting their offense going, and were forced to go three and out. Wesleyan had no such problems as they drove 81 yards down the field to score in only three minutes. With the PAT good, the score was 7-0 halfway through the first quarter.

Middlebury was unable to gain any yardage on the ensuing kickoff, and the Cardinals quickly got the ball back and drove 50 yards down field for another touchdown, and the score now sat at 13-0 with the PAT attempt fumbled.

Middlebury found some spark with two great receptions by sophomore Bryan Sanchez and senior Adam Pascal who combined to bring the ball down into Wesleyan's red zone. Senior co-captain Brian Coates then tossed a six yard touchdown pass to senior A.J. Husband to bring the score up to 13-7 after the PAT by senior Scott Dudley.

The Cardinals made an offensive explosion as they scored four touchdowns. The Panthers also found an offensive spark, but were not so lucky as a beautiful screen run by Sanchez 77 yards down field to the endzone was called back. The Panthers came back on their next drive, however, with an explosive 78 yard touchdown run from freshman Von Craig, and Dudley again completed the PAT. Middlebury brought the game closer on their next series at offense as Sanchez this time brought his screen into the endzone for the score. With Wesleyan leading 42-20 going into half-time, the Panthers knew they would have to play a perfect second half if they hoped to overcome the Cardinals.

Middlebury drew blood first as Coates connected with sophomore Zac Campbell for a five yard touchdown pass halfway through the third quarter. With the two point conversion to Husband good, the score stood at 42-28, but would soon change as Wesleyan scored on the next series, bringing it up to 49-28 with the PAT good. The Cardinals scored a few moments later, and the score remained at 55-28 until the end of the game.

Coates still managed to complete 17 of 29 passes for 263 yards with three touchdown passes. Husband was his solid self, as he caught six passes for 73 yards and a touchdown. Sanchez had four catches for 105 yards and a touchdown, and Craig was named the NESCAC rookie of the week as he led rushing with 109 yards in six carries with a touchdown. Despite these numbers, it was not the performance that the Panthers had been practicing so hard for. With many defensive blunders and mishaps, the Panthers have a lot to prove this weekend as they travel to Colby in search of a big win.

Cross Country Teams Hit Colby

By Scott Cacciola
Staff Writer

The beat goes on for the Middlebury Men's and Women's Cross Country teams as they continue their quest for glory in November. After exhibiting their athletic prowess in a pair of home meets to open the '98 season, the Panthers hit the road this past weekend to take on a trio of NESCAC foes at Colby College.

While the men continued to focus on improving their form by the end of the season, the women once again asserted their New England supremacy by simply lambasting their competition.

The men's race pitted the Panthers against NESCAC rivals Bowdoin College — currently ranked ninth in Division III New England — and the host team Colby. Despite being defeated by a final tally of Bowdoin 33, Colby 38, and Middlebury 52, the Panthers made their presence known from the outset of the race. Marshall Boyd '02, coming off a pair of impressive performances in his first collegiate races, hung with the leaders for the entire race, as did teammate Eric Barr '01.

"The course was uphill for the first half and then downhill for the second part," commented Barr after the race. "I knew that if I went out conservatively, I could really turn it on over the second half." Following the apex of the climb, Barr and Boyd pushed the pace down the hill, picking off competitor after competitor. When all was said and done, Barr had finished third with a time of 28:11 while Boyd was just a second behind in the fourth position.

"Eric[Barr] and Marshall[Boyd] really ran a fantastic race," said Assistant Coach Molly Enman. "They both ran consistent miles, worked together well and held off a huge pack of Colby runners at the end of the race. They never relented."

Bill Coddington '99, Tom Santoro '01 and Benji Perin '01 rounded out the Middlebury scoring in 14th, 15th and 16th place, respectively. Matt Whitcomb '01, in his first collegiate cross-country race, finished strong in 20th place.

"It was definitely their best race of the

(see Cross country, page19)

Field Hockey dominates Bowdoin

Panther Seniors disassemble Bears' defense

By Shannon Macauley
Staff Writer

The Middlebury Field Hockey team opened their season with a resounding bang. After shutting out their first three opponents of the season, Middlebury went into last Saturday's contest against the Bowdoin Bears with an undefeated record of 3-0. With the sun shining and the sidelines packed with fans, it was evident from the onset that Middlebury was a force the Bears wouldn't want to reckon with.

The intensity of both the Middlebury and Bowdoin teams set up a fast-paced game. Bowdoin (3-1) came out fast and hard, scoring in the first ten minutes, grabbing the lead. Backed by the tenacious defense of Heidi Dripps '99, Becky Drake '00 and Kate Robertson '01, Middlebury launched an offensive.

With 15 minutes left in the first half, Middlebury capitalized on a penalty corner. Muffy Peters '00 redirected tri-captain Kully Hagerman's '00 shot from the top of the circle, leading to the first Middlebury goal.

With just under eight minutes in the first half to play, Middlebury was awarded a penalty stroke due to an error by the Bowdoin goalie, Dana Krueger. Cool as ice, tri-captain Missy Hopkins '99 stepped up to the stroke mark and fired a bullet by Krueger, breaking the 1-1 tie.

As both teams were eager to preserve their impressive records, they lost no intensity in the second half. Tri-captain Heidi Howard '99, Jessa Martin '00, Nina Johnson '00, and Elizabeth Huffman '99 were relentless on the Bowdoin's defense.

Bowdoin countered the Middlebury attacks, and ultimately scored off a penalty stroke that just squeezed past Middlebury goalie, Laura Parmelee '99. With the score tied at 2-2 and 25 minutes to play, the game became a heated frenzy. But strong play by Parmelee and the entire Middlebury defense rendered all of Bowdoin's attacks ineffective.

Finally, with less than a minute to play, Middlebury's determination and team-cohesion paid off. During a scramble in front of the Bowdoin goal, first-year sensation Julia Bergoftsky slipped the ball past the Bowdoin goalie to put Middlebury up 3-2. A brilliant play by a technically inexperienced player, leading to another win for Middlebury Field Hockey.

Middlebury's offense unleashed 43 shots on goal during the game. Parmalee saw no shortage of potential crisis, but came through in winning fashion, making 13 saves. Make no mistake, Union, the undefeated Panthers will be looking forward to Tuesday's game.

Jen Williams

The undefeated hockey team celebrates its victory over the Bowdoin Bears.